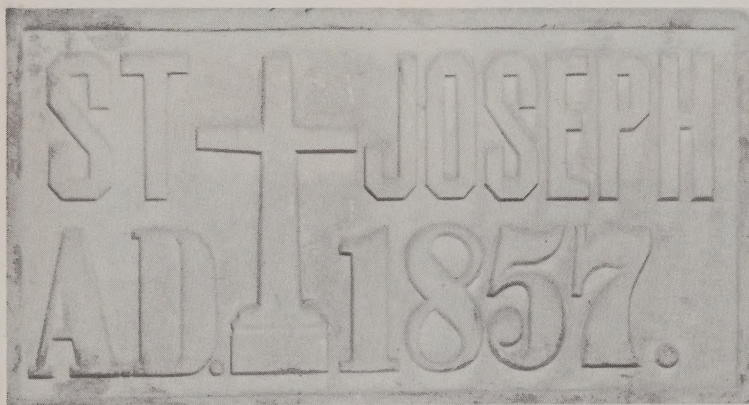


ONE HUNDRED
CANDLES
FOR ST. JOSEPH'S

FREMONT, OHIO

1857 — 1957

ONE HUNDRED CANDLES FOR ST. JOSEPH'S



The stone which was placed above
the entrance to old St. Joseph's.

*A Review in Word and Picture of the First Hundred Years of
Saint Joseph's Parish, Fremont, Ohio*
1857 — 1957

By
REV. ALOYSIUS S. HORN



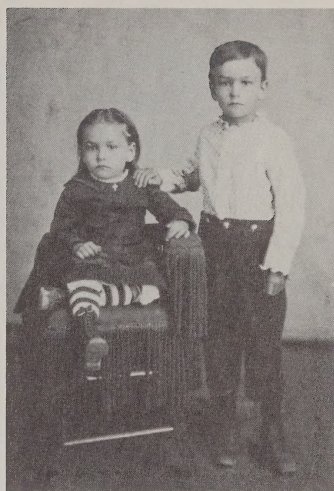
Wedding
Pictures of
Parishioners
1870



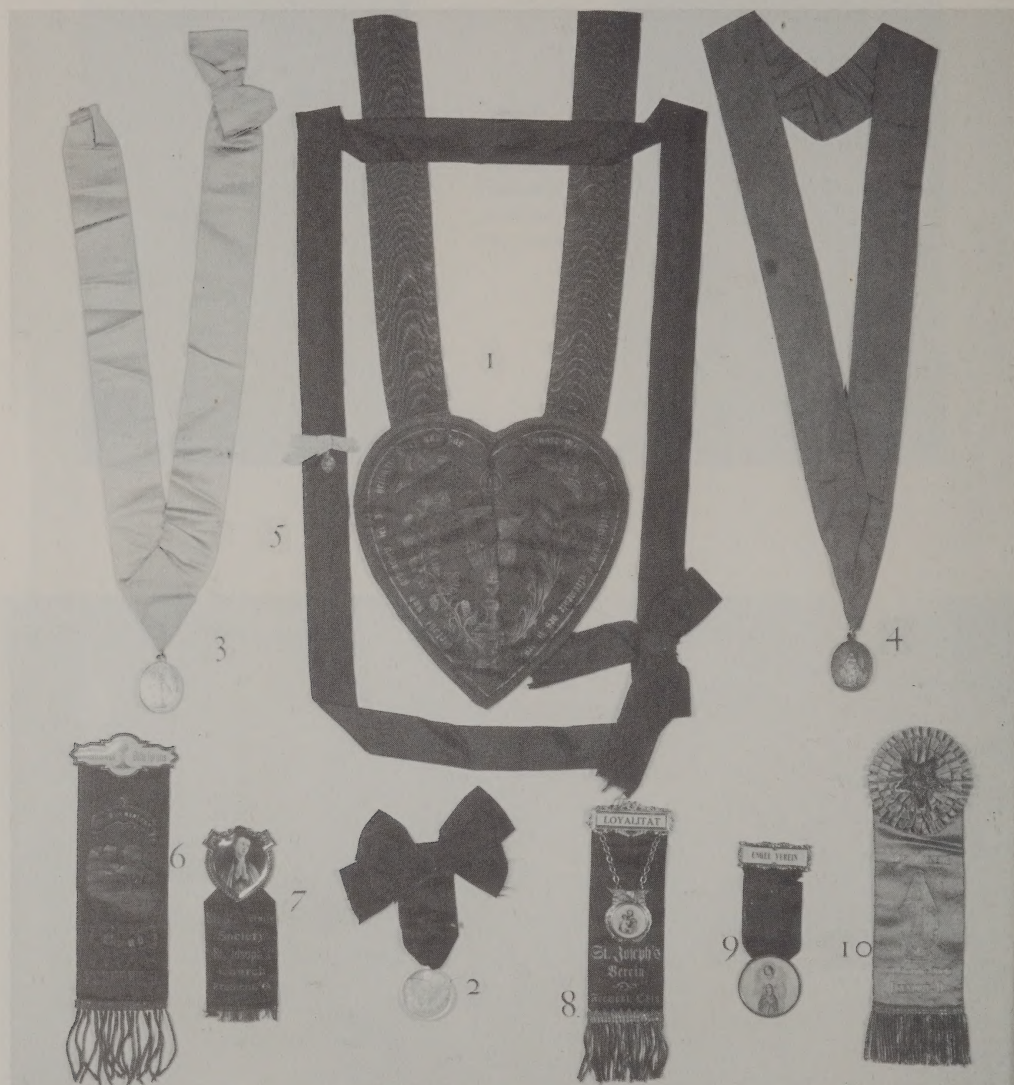
INTERIOR OF ST. JOSEPH'S FROM SANCTUARY. FATHER GODFREY POAGE, C.P.,
GIVING TALK DURING HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT, JANUARY 1957



Young
Members
of the
Parish,
left, 1872
right, 1876



FROM OUT OF THE PAST, BADGES OF VARIOUS PARISH SOCIETIES



1. The Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament, for the women of the parish, organized July 6, 1873. Original badge, gold emblem and inscription in German imprinted on red-violet heart; purple ribbon.
2. Present badge of Confraternity; red ribbon.
3. Sodality of the Immaculate Conception, the Young Ladies' Sodality founded December 8, 1871. Light blue ribbon.
4. Sodality of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Young Men's Sodality (YMS), founded January 12, 1872. Kelly green ribbon.
5. Kindheit Jesu Verein (Child Jesus Society), for little girls 6 to 12, organized about 1878. Red ribbon.

- 6 & 7. Original and later badge for St. Stanislaus Bund (St. Stanislaus Society), for boys from First Communion (then at age of 12) to 17 or 18. Organized about 1875. Ribbon is red.
8. St. Joseph's Verein (St. Joseph's Society), for the men of the parish. Organized October 1, 1859; reorganized in 1868. Red ribbon. Reverse side could also be used and this was black for wearing at funerals.
9. Engel Verein (Angel Society), for little boys 6 to 12, organized about 1878. Red ribbon.
10. Hof Mariens (Court of Mary), for girls from First Communion (at age of 12) to 17 or 18, organized about 1875. Ribbon deep royal blue.

HOMAGE TO OUR HOLY FATHER, HIS HOLINESS, POPE PIUS XII
IN THE NINETEENTH YEAR OF HIS REIGN



Translation:

The Right Reverend Monsignor James S. Arnoldi, Pastor of Saint Joseph's Church, in the City of Fremont, Diocese of Toledo in America, solemnly commemorating the Hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the Parish, on this happy occasion, kneeling at the feet of Your Holiness, humbly asks

the Apostolic Benediction, a reward of labors and an augury of divine favors on himself, his Assistants, and to all the faithful committed to his care.

Granted at the Vatican, November 6, 1957.

DIEGO VENINI
Archbishop of Adana



Bishop's House
2344 Parkward Avenue
Caleda, Ohio

To the Clergy, Religious and Laity of St. Joseph's Parish,

The Centenary of St. Joseph's Parish suggests a moment of pause to review its history and to turn our minds to Almighty God with an expression of deep, sincere thanks for the countless blessings, graces and favors that He has uninterruptedly bestowed upon the members of the parish. Its history needs no recounting from the undersigned. As he has come to know it, St. Joseph's is a closely-knit parish, many of whose people have belonged to it all their lives and trace their origin to its founders and the early settlers of the town; St. Joseph's has been served by zealous, unselfish priests whose one solicitude has been and is "to be about their Father's business." (Luke, II, 49). Its history, therefore, is a golden page in the history of the Church in the Diocese of Toledo -- a record of the transcendent debt owing to our Heavenly Father.

Properly and justly therefore our thoughts rise heavenwards. The flourishing condition of the parish is manifest in its splendid church and its other fine, substantial buildings. Valuable, useful and necessary as they are, and evidencing the generosity of parishioners, they are the least of God's bountiful largesse; for in themselves they are only the means for the achievement of nobler and higher purposes.

Thanks must go out to Almighty God first and foremost for the blessings of the Divine Redemption that have been channelled to parishioners by His divinely-commissioned Church through the teaching of the eternal truths, the offering of the clean oblation of the New Law and the administration of the Sacraments. Too often in the everyday struggle for a livelihood and the pursuit of pleasure, we pay more attention to creatures than to the Creator, to the here-and-now values than other incorruptible rewards. Temporalities should serve spirituality; earth should provide the road to our heavenly home. Good Catholics are devoted to their parish and are habitually disposed to share their earthly goods with it in return for the light, the direction the guidance and strength they receive towards winning the only real and meaningful success of existence.

These considerations deserve frequent reflection so that they may not be obscured and lost sight of in the confusion so prevalent in our times. Rightly understood they fill our souls with overflowing love for our Divine Benefactor.

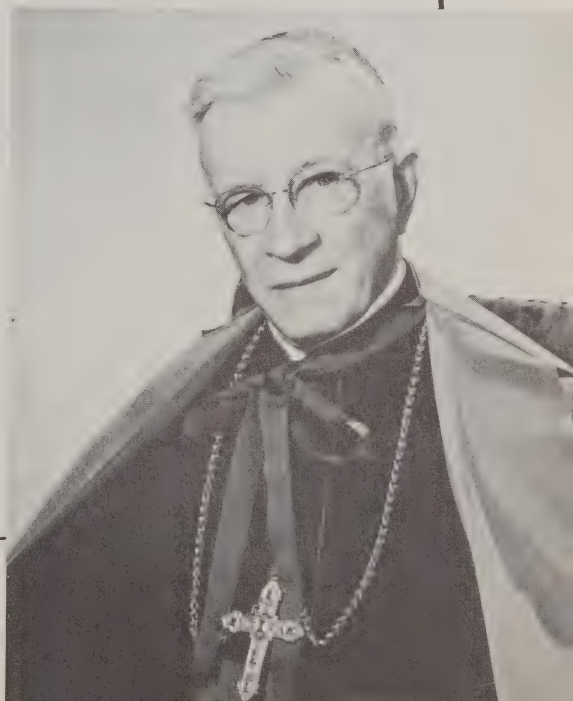
The Centenary stirs up memories of priests, religious and parishioners who deserve well of posterity and whose needs, if they still have any in the cleansing ante-chamber of their heavenly home, should be remembered daily in private and liturgical prayer.

May the future of St. Joseph's parish be a continuation of intrepid faith, unshakable loyalty to the Church, and an ever-increasing love of Almighty God.

We pray that our Divine Saviour in His Infinite Goodness will bring the other sheep into the fold, call back the erring to His embrace and draw the faithful to Himself in a constantly increasing intimate union.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Geo J. Rehring
MOST REV. GEORGE J. REHRING, STD
Bishop of Toledo



Dedication

Dearly Beloved Parishioners of St. Joseph's:

As man looks at visible creation, a hundred years is a long time and the completion of such a period in the life of a parish is worthy of jubilant celebration, but it is especially appropriate at this moment to pause for a while and render thanks to Almighty God for all the blessings he has bestowed in this interval.

The Most Reverend Bishop, in the letter he wrote for this occasion, expresses the true spiritual significance of this centenary, for a parish exists primarily to teach its members to know, love, and serve God here so that they may be happy with Him forever in the life to come.

But man is made up of a body and a soul. The real development of the soul is known to God alone. The body, activated by the soul, performs those exterior actions which when recorded constitute history. These actions, then, of pastors and assistants, Sisters and lay teachers, of pioneer and contemporary parishioners, of little children and of old folks, sometimes feeble but often heroic, as seen by human eyes, make up the pages of this book, a lasting memorial to those who were St. Joseph's parish from 1857 to 1957.

In the name of the Parish I wish to thank Father Horn for the many months of patient toil he has spent in gathering and editing this splendid volume.

May God continue to shower His blessings on our parish and may the parishioners in years to come emulate the faith and fortitude, the liberality and loyalty of their ancestors.

May Saint Joseph, our patron, close to Christ and His Mother Mary, continue to watch over us.

Mmgr. J. L. Arnoldi



THE RIGHT REVEREND MONSIGNOR JAMES S. ARNOLDI
Irremovable Rector of St. Joseph's from December 16, 1936



HIGH ALTAR — ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, 1928

FOREWORD

It was in the middle of September 1957 when Monsignor Arnoldi asked me to write the history of St. Joseph's parish on the occasion of its hundredth birthday, a task which was to be completed and in print by November 17, 1957. It was with reluctance that I accepted the assignment and as for the delay in publication, the reader will readily come to his own conclusions after he sees the results.

Father Waechter's book: "Souvenir of the Diamond Jubilee of St. Joseph's Parish" takes up the story of early Catholicity in Fremont and records parish history to the year 1933; this work takes up the history of the parish from 1933 to December 8, 1957, and at the same time fills in many of the gaps left in the previous history. For the most part the earlier section of the present history was compiled from the many old record books in both the St. Joseph's and St. Ann's archives. As for the subject matter, all the important events are recapitulated and to this has been added many unimportant yet interesting details.

As for the school, and this is the life-blood of the parish, the more important dates are mentioned, but the history itself has been left as a project for "THE VOICE" in the 1959-1960 school year for October 1959 will mark the hundredth anniversary of the founding of St. Joseph's School. The "Sports History of St. Joseph's" so thoroughly compiled by Ted Bintz, Sr., will be found in the St. Joseph's High School library for those so inclined to review it.

Those who have assisted with the present history are: Sister Mary Carolanne, S.N.D., Mrs. William Gabel, Sr., Mrs. Marie Goetz Oberhauser, Miss Agnes Leite, Miss Louise Billow, The Hayes Memorial Library, Charles E. Babione, Carl A. Halm, John F. Horn, Bernarde J. Hoffman, Alban O. Mehling, Marshall Kenan, Jerome P. Smith and Carl W. Yeager.

Especially assigned to fully cover the events at the close of the hundred years was the photographer Richard Hertzner. Several rare photographs from the Zeno Mehling collection were also procured. Special recognition is due to Sister Mary St. Paul, S.N.D., who at the very last moment made drawings of two very important events which had not been photographed.

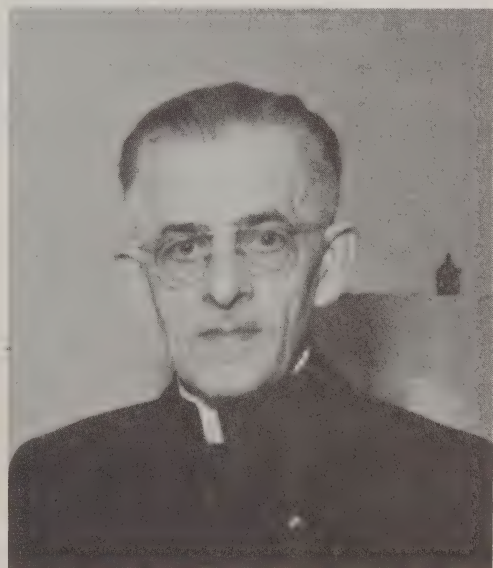
On the cornerstone of the 1908 school you will read the words: "FOR GOD AND FOR COUNTRY." I hope that my attempt to recreate the actions of the parish in the days gone by, actions for God and for country, all the present parishioners will recall the spirit which moved our ancestors and that future generations will be spurred on to still greater accomplishments for their God and their country.

If there are any omissions they were unintentional; there were limitations of time and space.

REV. ALOYSIUS S. HORN

Feast of The Sacred Heart

June 13, 1958



REV. ALOYSIUS S. HORN





THE OFFICIAL FOUNDATION of St. Joseph's parish in Fremont, Ohio, dates to the arrival of Father Louis Molon, its first pastor, on Tuesday, December 8, 1857. There is no record that Father Molon said a Mass on that day and in all probability he did not get here until 2:24 in the afternoon, the time that the Chicago Express on the Cleveland and Toledo railroad arrived at the Fremont depot from Cleveland. The church as far as it was then completed, stood on the north-west corner of Croghan and Clover streets, on a site now covered by the new St. Joseph's High School.

FRENCH, IRISH, GERMAN

Up to this time there was only one Catholic parish in Fremont, earlier known as Lower Sandusky, St. Ann's, which was established in 1841 by Father Joseph P. Machebeuf, but the first church was not ready for services until in May, 1844. This was a wooden structure located at what is now 511 West State street. French, Irish and German Catholics worshipped here together; but once St. Joseph's was established, it was designated as a German national parish. Both German and English were taught in the parochial school until the year 1912; German sermons and prayers were continued until World War I in 1917; and finally, during the pastorate of Father Joseph Waechter, 1921 to 1936, the "Grosser Gott Wir Loben Dich" at the end of Forty Hours Devotions gave way to the "Holy God We Praise Thy Name." Today the only trace of German found in the church will be seen in the donor inscriptions under the Stations of the Cross where you can still read: "Hof Mariae" (Court of Mary); "Bruderschaft SS. Sacr." (Blessed Sacrament Confraternity); and "Juenglings Sodalitaet" (Young Men's Sodality).

HISTORICAL FACTS SHOULD NOT BE ALTERED

It is a rather sad task to chronicle the unfortunate circumstances which preceded the actual founding of St. Joseph's especially when so many of the important details are no longer preserved for historical scrutiny and when the voices of all the original actors have been stilled for eternity. To write a complete and unbiased account we would have to know everything that transpired at that time when the extension of the Church into

this part of the West was undergoing growing pains. Priests had to be brought here from Europe, for the native clergy constituted but a small percentage of the priests needed for this fast developing section of the United States. And where could priests be found who could speak English, French and German?



Old St. Ann's, built in 1843-1844, stood at 511 west State street. It was razed in April 1893.

CLEVELAND DIOCESE WAS ESTABLISHED JUST TEN YEARS EARLIER

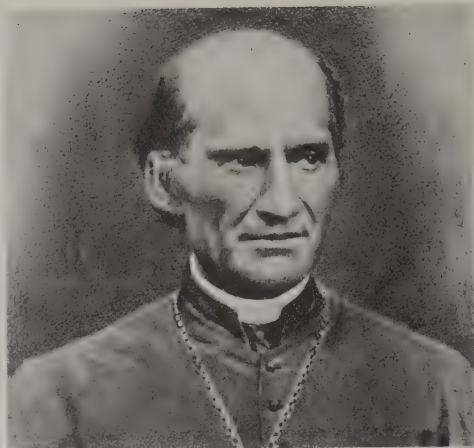
The Cleveland Diocese, to which we then belonged, was taken from the Cincinnati Diocese, having been established in 1847, with Father Amadeus Rappe, then a missionary in these parts, being chosen as the first bishop. He was consecrated in St. Peter in Chain's Cathedral in Cincinnati on October 10, 1847. Only the year before he had been stationed here at St. Ann's.

BISHOP AMADEUS RAPPE

Louis Amadeus Rappe was born on February 2, 1801, at Audrehem, a village near Ardres, Department of St. Omer, France, and was ordained to the Priesthood on March 14, 1829. His first charges were in France and it was not until he was thirty-nine that he came to America at the invitation of Bishop Purcell of Cincinnati. He set sail from his homeland in September 1840. It was this man who as Bishop of Cleveland had to cope with the problems of establishing a new German parish in Fremont when he did not have enough priests to take care of the parishes already started.

FREMONT ABOUT 1857

But what was Fremont about the year 1857? We know that in 1860 Fremont had a population of 3,510, so that in 1857 the population must have been close to 3,000. The Toledo, Norwalk and Cleveland Railway (later called the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern and now that part of the New York Central system known as the Southern Division) sent its first train through Fremont on February 7, 1853. This meant that Cleveland was only a little more than three hours from Fremont for both passengers and mail in 1857. About 1840, many Germans left their Fatherland for America. This was partially due to wars and revolutions, poverty and overpopulation. A vigorous campaign was also being conducted to bring people to America. Posters were distributed throughout Germany, in villages as well as in cities, advertising the great opportunities waiting for all in America; the fertile soil, the low-priced farm lands, and all the golden promises which to our day entice the ambitious and the adventurers of Europe as well as of other lands. And so it was that many German speaking people from Austria, Germany and Switzerland settled in and around what is now Fremont at that time and soon after.



THE MOST REVEREND AMADEUS RAPPE, D.D.
First Bishop of Cleveland

A LANGUAGE PROBLEM

Many of these were devout Catholics. The priests who were sent to take care of St. Ann's were for the most part French: Father (later Bishop) Joseph Projectus Machebeuf, Father Peter Peudeprat, Father (later Bishop) Amadeus Rappe, and Father (later Bishop) Louis De Goesbriand, covering the period from 1841 to early 1848; and then Father Maurice Howard from Ireland for a few months in 1848, followed by Father William L. Nightingale, of English birth, in August 1848. He arrived in Cleveland in July 1848 and soon after was appointed the first resident pastor of St. Ann's, remaining until the early part of 1850. Father Peter Carabin, another native of France, came next and was here until 1852, and he was followed by Father Thomas J. Walsh, of Ireland, who remained until June 1856. During Father Walsh's pastorate at St. Ann's, a house on the northwest corner of Croghan and Wood streets (Site now occupied by the offices of C. H. Shively, architect), was purchased for the sum of \$700 from L. Q. Rawson and wife on August 26, 1854. This was sold to J. Tyler for \$1,100 on May 7, 1863.

THE GERMAN PROBLEM

From all this it can readily be seen that the Germans, who gradually represented a majority in the parish, were to a great extent neglected. To be sure they could attend Mass with the others, but it was

difficult for them to go to Confession; they heard no German sermons; they could not sing the German hymns they so dearly loved in church. We may also add that many of them longed for the land and customs they had left. It is also known that in 1849, during Father Nightingale's pastorate, the German boys who were of age to make their First Communion had to go by wagon to Detroit, where, at St. Mary's church, in charge of German Redemptorists, they were instructed and received their First Communion.



FATHER FRANCIS X. WENINGER, S.J.

A MISSION FOR THE GERMANS

The plight of the German parishioners and the need for religious ministrations must have been realized by Father Thomas Walsh, the Pastor of St. Ann's, who in 1855 invited the celebrated Jesuit Missionary, Father Francis Xavier Weninger (1805-1888), to give a mission. Born in Austria, after his ordination to the Priesthood he joined the Jesuits in 1832. In 1848 he came to America. During forty years he visited almost every state in the Union, preaching to vast multitudes in English, French and German, as best suited to the nationality of his hearers. In the year 1854 alone he delivered nearly a thousand sermons. He was a zealous Priest who also took time to have more than 65 works published.

FATHER WENINGER MAKES A SUGGESTION

During his visit to Fremont, Father Weninger heard of the discontent and unhappiness of many on account of language and customs. These people were thousands of miles away from home; the task of draining the Black Swamp, clearing the forests, and building homes was strenuous; and there was little time and still less inclination to study and master a new language. The missionary, having heard the story from many tongues, advised the formation of a new parish which would satisfy the needs of this language group. There can be no doubt that Father Weninger was sincere in giving this advice and that he had only the good of the people at heart.

A STRANGE ARRANGEMENT

If the Germans did not have their way in the matter of a German-speaking pastor, they did at least have a firm hand on the matter of finances. The parish "Register" or book of receipts for pew rent and church collections which also recorded expenditures for the running of the parish, was in German hands at least as early as July 1855 and perhaps even earlier. The keeper of the records at this time was Frank Joseph Giebel, Sr. (1822-1897), later very prominent in the St. Joseph's Society. The entries were, of course, in German script and as such present no particular difficulties for the translator, but when it comes to the entry of the contributions of the English-speaking members of the congregation it is quite a different matter. These names were spelled out phonetically in German script so that they are difficult to transcribe in our day and in quite a few instances the results are quite humorous.

A FEW OF THE GERMANIZED NAMES

A selection of some of the pew-renters' names using English letters for the German script followed by their actual names will prove interesting and amusing: (The A's are pronounced "ah" and the E's like "a")

Mises Rasen for Mrs. Rawson

(This was Mrs. Sophia Rawson, wife of Dr. L. Q. Rawson, who died at the age of 70 on May 20, 1882, and was buried from the old St. Ann's. She was a daughter of John D. Beaugrand in whose home Father Gabriel Richard of Detroit said the first

Mass ever celebrated in Fremont, then Lower Sandusky, in March 1823).

Denes Lehn for Denis Lane
Michel Klisen for Michael Gleason
(These two men were among the first councilmen at St. Ann's)

Denes Dele for Denis Daily
Denes Kahlmus for Denis Collins
Schan Linsch for John Lynch
Georg Klilent for George Clelan.
Dan Hoele for Daniel Haley
Martin Kif for Martin Keefe.
Schan Kinun for John Keenan
Tomas Toben for Thomas Tobin
Schon Braun for John Brown

A FEW MORE DETAILS FROM THE REGISTER

Pew rent was paid quarterly. The number of the pew and its position in the church were carefully recorded, some on the East side and some on the West, but some had seats in the choir loft which in the account book was designated as: "Absters", which is easy to understand if you know that this was the phonetic spelling for: "Upstairs." For the quarter starting July 15, 1855, the pastor received \$41.60. At the end of the quarter a balance of \$27.38 remained in the treasury. For the next quarter the pastor received \$47.97. The Sunday collections, over and above the pew-rent, were very small, so that when all the bills were paid there was very little left over.

THE BISHOP IS PETITIONED

Shortly after Father Weninger's mission, a goodly portion of St. Ann's, the German element, petitioned Bishop Rappe for permission to organize a new parish in which German, at least for the time being, would be used. This the good bishop gently but firmly refused, and his refusal was based on many valid reasons. Was not Fremont but a village of three thousand? How could such a few poor people, the Catholic population, support two parishes? But there was still another reason why Bishop Rappe had to refuse the request. Although French by birth, he was intensely American in spirit. His well-meant desire was to Americanize his diocese and make the English language that of his diocese. In attempting to carry out this resolve he antagonized the Germans of Cleveland as far back as 1852, and for the same reason he gave

more or less offense to the Germans throughout the diocese during his entire administration. There is a very old tradition in the parish that it was on the occasion of the presentation of the petition to build a "German" church in Fremont that the Bishop emphatically stated: "There is no Irish Catholic Church, there is no French Catholic Church, there is no German Catholic Church; there is only the Roman Catholic Church!"

THE GERMANS PLAN TO BUILD

But even in the face of this refusal, the Germans in Fremont went ahead with their plans to build a church of their own. In 1856, the German segment carried on a campaign by private subscription to gather funds for the building of this church, the treasurer being Joseph Stuber (1819-1888). He was custodian for the funds collected for the erection of the church and then after its founding continued as treasurer for several years. It is difficult at the present time to appraise all the work he did for St. Joseph's and thus to give him the high praise that is his due. For a man of his limited means his donations were most generous. Later he became very prominent in the St. Joseph's Society.

Joseph Stuber died on April 16, 1888, and at his funeral services Father Bauer stated that Mr. Stuber was the principal originator of St. Joseph's church and congregation.

ACTED IN GOOD FAITH

As we now look back to those days we must regret the conditions of the times and merely agree that there were two sides to the very trying and difficult question. As for the German pioneers we must admit that they had a deep faith and good intentions as later events proved. They made great sacrifices to pass their faith on to their children. As all this activity was going on, Father Thomas Walsh was pastor of St. Ann's. Ordained in July 1852, he was at once sent to Fremont and remained here until June 22, 1856. In what seems to have been an attempt to placate the Germans, Bishop Rappe now sent to St. Ann's on June 23, 1856, Father John Roos, who had been ordained in Cleveland on June 1st of the same year. Father Roos, a native of Bavaria, was born in 1832, and came to the United States in 1850. But he must have added oil to the fire in Fremont and about the beginning of April, 1857, the ill feeling of the Germans at the bishop's refusal to grant their petition reached

such a stage that the bishop had Father Roos removed from St. Ann's. April 19, 1857, was the last Sunday Father Roos served here, the bishop having given him a parish in Canton. From this day until December 8th Fremont was without a pastor.

THE BUILDING PLAN PROGRESSES

The bishop was definitely displeased, but despite the censure of the bishop, the Germans went ahead with their plans to form a new congregation. More money was collected and then a parcel of land was purchased at the northwest corner of Croghan and Clover streets, and a substantial brick edifice, 48 by 100 feet in size was constructed at a cost of about \$7,000. The men themselves built the church, much of it at night after they had finished their regular day's work, and those who were physically unfit to do hard work held lanterns for those who were doing the construction work. There is no record that the plans were made by any architect; the building was merely built to resemble one of the smaller churches they remembered in the old country. There was no cornerstone laying, but a large stone on which was carved: "ST JOSEPH A. D. 1857." was placed above the entrance to the church. When, late in 1955, the old church was demolished to make way for the new high school, nothing was found in this stone.

A FEW FACTS NOT FOUND IN PREVIOUS HISTORIES

Catholics can not long endure without the administrations of a priest. After the end of the first quarter 1857 pew rent receipts, there are no more entries on the credit side of the account book, but there is a very significant if undated entry on the debit side. It tells us that one of the very prominent members of the German "seceders," Simon Schmidt (1820-1906) was reimbursed from the parish funds for a trip "nach Cliflund." This was of course Cleveland and the round-trip fare was \$6.00; and the trip a peace mission on the part of Mr. Schmidt and the Germans to ask for a priest.

MONTHLY VISITS

Following this we find that Father (later Monsignor) Felix M. Boff (1831-1912), at that time on the Seminary teaching staff in Cleveland, said Mass at St. Ann's on Sunday, July 12th and again on Sunday, August 30th, 1857. He also baptized a number

of infants. On September 20th, Bishop Rappe himself was at St. Ann's and after saying Mass baptized eleven infants. It is also quite probable that he administered the sacrament of Confirmation but if so, the list has not been located. At this time he had the opportunity of seeing how far the building of the German church had progressed. On November 8th, Father Narcissus Ponchell (1825-1860) from St. Peter's church in Norwalk said Mass at St. Ann's and also baptized several infants.

ANOTHER DIFFICULTY SURMOUNTED

The activities of the Germans showed their determination and the good bishop finally thought it would be wise to accede to their desires. But Germans can be stubborn and now another unforeseen difficulty arose and for what reason nobody seems to know. They refused to transfer the title of the church property to the Bishop of Cleveland, but finally the whole affair was settled to the satisfaction of all concerned. The title to the church property, that is, of inlots 178 and 201, in which Ralph F. Buckland and his wife transfer the land to Bishop Rappe for the consideration of \$800, is dated October 24, 1857. The record shows that the property was transferred directly from the previous owners to the bishop so that it is not known when the Germans received permission to build on it, nor is there any record of where the \$800 came from, although this must have been money collected in the 1856-1857 campaign for funds.

ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH IS BORN

Once the deed to the property was given to the Bishop of Cleveland, St. Joseph's was recognized as a parish. Father Louis Molon arrived in Fremont on December 8, 1857, and since the property of the new parish was far more valuable than that of the old, he became pastor of the new St. Joseph's and attended St. Ann's as a mission. From June 1860 to July 1861, he also attended the missions at Port Clinton, La Prairie, Marblehead, and Tossaint. As for Father Molon, he was born in the diocese of Arras, France, in 1826, and came to Cleveland as a seminarian in August, 1850. He was ordained on September 8th of the same year. Before coming to Fremont he had served in Tiffin, Massillon, Cleveland, Akron and Berwick. The arrival of Father Molon in Fremont is recorded in German in the old pew-rent and account book still preserved in



FATHER LOUIS MOLON
who arrived in Fremont on December 8, 1857

the parish archives, a translation of the entry reading as follows:

"On December 8th, Pastor Molon arrived in the parish, 1857. (signed) Francis Joseph Giebel, church councilman and J. Andres."

Directly below this there is an entry in English which states: "Having examined the account of Mr. Fr. Giebel, we found it exact.

(signed) L. Molon.
D Daily."

The J. Andres was Jacob Andres (1821-1879) who had been one of the first councilmen at St. Ann's and who was to become one of the leaders at St. Joseph's. D. Daily was Denis Daily, an eminent and ever-faithful member of St. Ann's. This is the first hint of the arrival of Father Molon at St. Joseph's. The "account examined" was the account of pew-rent paid in at St. Ann's and the record of expenditures for church administration to this date, accounts kept by Mr. Giebel.

MANY NAMES OF FOUNDERS STILL ON PARISH LIST

Looking over the list of the organizers of St. Joseph's parish in 1857 we find that many of the same family names appear on the parish records today. The list of church supporters contains more than 250 names, too long a list to copy in its entirety, but among these are found the following, though in some instances the spelling has been altered a bit: Babione, Bartson, Binsack, Bletscher, Brunner, Buchman, Darr, Dickman, Fisher, Foos, Frank, Freeh, Gabel, Geller, Giebel, Gompert, Gores, Gotttron, Gschwind, Haaser, Halbeisen, Halm, Haubert, Hauck, Hochenadel, Hodes, Hoffman, Homan, Horn, Hottinger, House, Kaiser, Kiefer, Koch, Kramer, Magrum, Malkmus, Mayle, Mehling, Meyer, Miller, Ochs, Recktenwald, Reineck, Rice, Rich, Rimelspach, Schell, Schmidt, Schneider, Schuck, Schwartz, Shiets, Spieldenner, Stein, Steinle, Swint, Toeppe, Weltin, Widman, Wilhelm, Yeager and Young. Although the names are no longer found, three more names of the pioneer families must be added, Andres, Haberstroh, and Stuber, for these names were important in the early days of the parish.

FIRST ENTRIES IN PARISH REGISTER

The first baby to be baptized in the old church, Father Molon's first entry in the St. Joseph's "parish register," was Anna Clara Giebel, daughter of Francis Joseph Giebel Sr., and Mary Sybilla Darr. Born on April 18, 1858, the record shows she was baptized on Sunday, April 25, 1858. She married Herman Goetz in 1882, and died May 6, 1923.

The first marriage in the old church was that of Martin Schwetzler and Appollonia Wind, with witnesses Aloysius Young and Maria Wind, Father Molon officiating, the date being May 24, 1858. (Here the name Schwetzler is an error, the name should have been Schwaerzle).

The first burial was that of Anthony Reineck who died in his 67th year and was buried on June 14, 1858.

The first First Communion class consisted of 21 boys and 20 girls, the date, Sunday, June 27, 1858.

PROBABLE DATE OF FIRST MASS IN OLD CHURCH

Reading between the lines of all existing records, it would appear that the old St. Joseph's church was



THE OLD ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH
Erected 1857

not in readiness for the celebration of Mass until in May, 1858, and that up to this time the facilities of St. Ann's were used for all religious ministrations. This is based on the following facts:

The first baptism recorded in the St. Joseph's register is dated April 25, 1858, as shown above. The church was only then so far along that this sacrament could be administered in the sacristy. Only a week before this, on Sunday, April 18th, Catherine, infant daughter of Joseph and Magdalene Stuber was baptized and this record is to be found in the St. Ann's register. Mr. Stuber was already of such prominence that had it been possible, his daughter would have been the first baptized in the then new church. From January 15th to this date of April 18th, the St. Ann's register records the baptisms of 16 infants of German parents. There were three weddings of German couples up to April 22nd of this year, and two funerals of German parishioners, the last that of John Young on March 3rd, all these recorded in St. Ann's register.

Furthermore, the old system of pew-rent suddenly changes to a ticket system as of May 1, 1858, and

continues as such for a full year until in May 1859 when there is a return to the pew-rent system and for the first time we find who held pews in the old St. Joseph's. But we can draw only one conclusion, and that is, that the ticket system marked the entry into the newly completed St. Joseph's, and then from the records of the first marriage and first funeral in the St. Joseph's register, it appears in all probability that the first Mass was said in the old St. Joseph's church on Sunday, May 2, 1858.

EFFORT EXPENDED

Now that we have come to the time when the old church was ready for use, it would be well to consider what effort was expended to make all this a reality. As for the money needed for the building, two subscriptions were taken up and the paid-up pledges from 1857 to the middle of 1858 amounted to \$4099.03. All in all, 501 days of work were donated. This labor consisted of cutting down and hauling logs, dressing into lumber, all the way to the actual construction work. Labor computed at \$29.28 was also included as a donation. 5321 feet of timber was donated by thirteen families and 490 feet of walnut for the making of the pews was given by still another family. But, as will soon be seen, this did not constitute the end of generous giving.

ST. JOSEPH'S SOCIETY IS ORGANIZED

On October 1, 1859, under the direction of Father Molon, a number of men of the parish assembled in the school building for the purpose of organizing the St. Joseph Society. This school, built of wood, and consisting of one very large room, was started in the Spring of 1859. Every nail, shingle, and almost every grain of sand used in the mortar for the foundation, is accounted for in the parish record book. This, too, was the result of voluntary contributions. This school, a one story structure, was the first of several to occupy the grounds behind the old priest's house on the north side of Croghan street. This group of rambling buildings went under the name of "Chinatown" in later years, and the schoolhouse itself still served as late as 1908.

Here now Father Molon and this group of men met to form a society which aimed to honor St. Joseph, patron saint of the congregation, in a special manner. But it had another purpose, namely: "To further the interests of our parochial school, and thereby give our children the advantages of a



The little building just right of center is the original St. Joseph's school, built in 1859

solid christian education, and thus help them work out more effectively their eternal salvation." This holds good 98 years after the founding of St. Joseph's school, and it would be well for all parents to rededicate themselves to this ideal.

It was then and there decided who would have the right to attend the school. The pupils would be:

- 1) The children of the poor Catholics of St. Joseph's parish.
- 2) The children of the members of the society.
- 3) The parents of other children would have to pay fifty cents school money a month for each child.

Society members were taxed $12\frac{1}{2}$ or 25 cents a month according to their means.

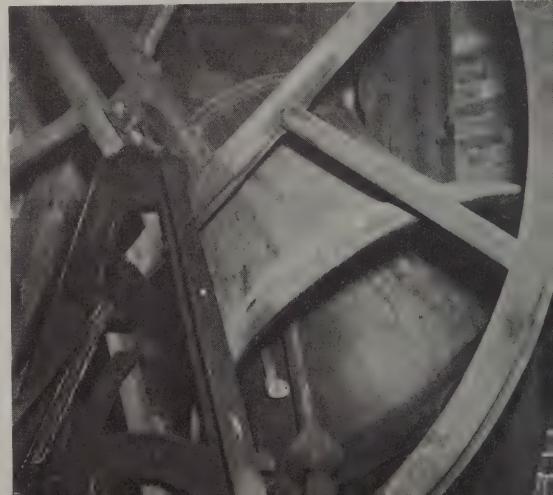
THE FIRST TEACHER

The first lay teacher at St. Joseph's was Frank Schiffer. He received \$286.00 for his first year's salary, receiving his first pay on October 5, 1859, and his final payment for the year on August 5, 1860. He perhaps taught the 1860-1861 school year but then he vanishes forever. Nothing more is recorded of him.

A BELL IS PROCURED

The school project was well under way by the end of 1859, but all through that year another project also came to a successful conclusion. This was the special campaign for the purchase of a bell. This bell, still the largest of the four St. Joseph's

The "Maria Josephina," the bell procured in 1859



bells, was made by Jones and Company, Founders, of Troy, N. Y., and the date "1859" is found on the bell, the lip of which is 47 inches across and the tongue 42 inches long. The cost of the bell, completely installed, was \$716.11, and the most interesting detail connected with the purchase thereof was that one-third of the funds collected for it came from non-Catholics. The bell was blessed and consecrated on Sunday, November 20, 1859, by the Most Reverend John Henry Luers (1819-1871), first bishop of Fort Wayne, Indiana. It is interesting to recall that before he studied for the priesthood he clerked in a store in Piqua, Ohio. Records in the St. Joseph's archives show that the ceremony took place before a large group of witnesses and that the bell was given the name "Maria Josephina." In the meantime a fund was being raised for the purchase of a good organ. There was never a dull moment!

STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

The year 1859 also saw the completion of the special subscription from parishioners for the installation of stained glass windows in the church. These cost \$39.00 for each window and ten were purchased, the entire cost having been \$409.00 in which is included freight charges. There were seventeen donators, some having paid for a whole window, some for a half, and five merely donating towards the project.

ST. JOSEPH'S RECEIVES ITS FIRST ASSISTANT

Gradually work increased for Father Molon since he not only had the added duties of tending the flock at St. Ann's but also in the surrounding mission territory. So it was that in April, 1859, there arrived in Fremont its first assistant priest in the person of Father Louis Hoffer who was born in Phalsborg (Lorraine), France, November 18, 1824, and who passed from this life at Louisville, Ohio, on November 2, 1897. He was already ordained when he reached Cleveland early in April, 1859, and at once he was sent on to assist Father Molon. It was he who now attended the mission churches at Toussaint, and Greensburg, now called Millersville, and he remained here only until August of 1859.

ARRIVAL OF FATHER GEORGE PETER

Father Molon urgently requested another helper



FATHER GEORGE PETER

and in the meantime Father George Peter arrived. Father Peter was born at Chur-Hessen, Germany, May 19, 1835, and was ordained to the Priesthood by Bishop Rappe at Cleveland on June 26, 1859, so it was shortly after his ordination that he came to Fremont. He was charged with the care of Millersville, Clyde, Elmore, Woodville, Port Clinton and Toussaint.

A DEPARTURE

Although Father Molon now had a good assistant, the strain of organizing the new parish, trying to supervise still another, helping out at the mission stations, attempting to get along with people who were of three language groups, undergoing many trials and difficulties, all now began to tell on him, and so weary of constant strife, he tendered his resignation as pastor of St. Joseph's on March 11, 1861. He continued to serve however as pastor of St. Ann's until July of the same year. The Bishop then sent him to Sandusky where he was pastor of Holy Angels' church until 1863, and then after a short visit to his native France, he returned to St. Joseph's in Massillon, Ohio, a parish he had organized in 1854. In 1865 he was appointed pastor of

St. Mary's church in Elyria, and there he died on November 16, 1880.

FATHER PETER BECOMES PASTOR

After Father Molon's resignation on March 11, 1861, Father George Peter remained at St. Joseph's and now became pastor as of March 12th, but he held this assignment for only a few months. Shortly after Father Peter had undertaken his duties the Civil War broke out, on April 12, 1861. Father Peter did not enjoy good health so he remained in Fremont only till July 16, 1861, and then retired to St. Francis Home in Tiffin, but he lived yet for many years. He died in Tiffin on January 7, 1903.

FATHER NICHOLAS MOES ARRIVES

Father Peter was followed by Father Nicholas A. Moes, who remained at St. Joseph's for a little more than a year, and in that short time accomplished much in securing harmony and peace where much bitterness and resentment had previously existed. For the record we may state that Father Moes was born in the village of Bous, Luxembourg, on February 8, 1826, and was ordained to the Holy



REV. NICHOLAS MOES

Priesthood by Bishop Rappe on April 16, 1857. He served at Dungannon and, Louisville, Ohio, immediately after his ordination and then came to Fremont where he labored until September 1862. After that he was in charge of St. Mary's, Sandusky, and still later served in Berwick, St. Mary's Seminary in Cleveland, St. Francis de Sales in Toledo, and then in New Bavaria until 1873, when he returned to Sandusky where he undertook the erection of the present magnificent St. Mary's church. In 1888 poor health forced him to resign his charge and he returned to his native land. He died in Limpertsberg, Luxembourg, on November 26, 1900.

THE LONG AWAITED ORGAN IS INSTALLED

Although a small organ had now served for some time, in 1862, the organ subscriptions reached \$559.50 and at last a good organ was installed. The contract was with an Otto Schmidt, an organ builder, who received a payment of \$8.50 for some services rendered early in May, 1862, and a first payment on the organ itself for \$177 on May 21st.

ANOTHER SCHOOL TEACHER ARRIVES

It was during the pastorate of Father Moes that another school teacher arrived. This was George Held, Sr., who also served as church organist. Born in Canton, Ohio, in 1838, he entered St. John's College in Cleveland in 1854 to prepare for a teaching career. Here it was that he met Seraphin Bauer, a fellow student. The first record of Mr. Held in Fremont is under the date of August 3, 1861. He continued to teach at St. Joseph's until 1865. His connection as organist and choir director continued for several more years. Later he became the organist at St. Ann's, a position he retained until his 80th year. Mr. Held often related how he had taught 123 children between the ages of 6 and 16 all in the same room. He lived to the ripe age of 93, a link between the old and the new, his death occurring on May 30, 1931.

FOUNDING OF THE ALTAR SOCIETY

Although later reorganized by Father Bauer, the Altar Society was founded by Father Moes. Father Moes served at St. Joseph's from July 1861 to September 1862 and his memory was long cherished.

THE GOLDEN ERA BEGINS

FATHER SERAPHIN BAUER BECOMES PASTOR

One of the most important dates in the annals of St. Joseph's parish was September 21, 1862, for on that day Rev. Seraphin Bauer received his appointment as pastor. His zeal and energy dominated St. Joseph's for nearly a half century. Seraphin Bauer was born in the town of Sainte-Marie-aux-Mines (Markirch), Alsace, France, on October 17, 1835. At one time there were very important silver mines in the vicinity of this town. The Liepvrette river flows through it and years ago this formed a language boundary, German being spoken on the left bank and French on the right. Seraphin Bauer's father was German and his mother of Spanish origin. He was only eleven years old when his mother died and then his father returned to his former home at Greissheim, Baden, Germany. After solid education, his confessor, Father Philipi, counselled him to study for the priesthood, but owing to serious political unrest and a rumor that the seminary would be closed, young Mr. Bauer was advised by the Archbishop of Freiburg in Breisgau, the Most Reverend Hermann von Vicari, to pursue his studies in free America.

ARRIVES IN CLEVELAND

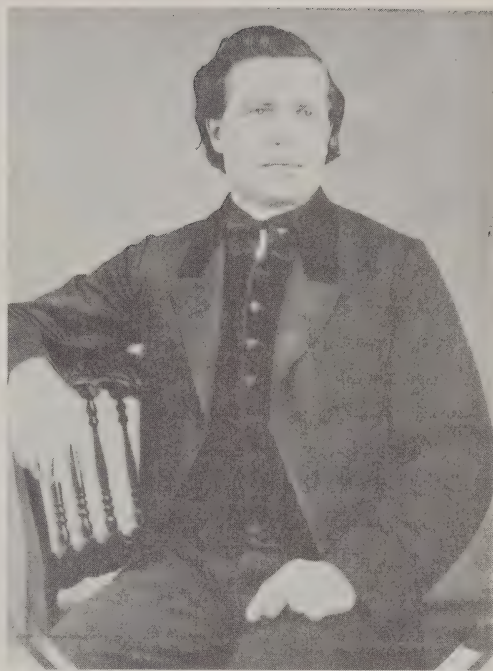
July 1, 1854, saw his arrival in Cleveland, Ohio, where, after studying in St. John's College and St. Mary's Seminary, he was ordained to the priesthood on June 13, 1858, by Bishop Rappe, and so at the age of 22 years and 7 months was one of the youngest priests ever sent out from the Cleveland seminary to labor in the missions. The first appointment of Father Bauer was to St. Joseph's in Maumee, where he remained from July 1, 1858 to September 13, 1862. On September 21, 1862, Father Bauer was made pastor of St. Joseph's, Fremont.

THE BEGINNING OF A PRODIGIOUS PASTORATE

Father Bauer set to work at once, first paying off a debt the parish had contracted and then extended the property lines by the purchase of five parcels of land for school and residence purposes.

FIRST RESIDENCE

When Father Bauer arrived in Fremont, he first resided in a small frame house which stood just to



Father Seraphin Bauer shortly after his arrival in Fremont.
It was only at the Third Plenary Council of Baltimore in 1884
that the wearing of the Roman collar was enjoined.

the west of the old church. The house was no doubt already quite old and rather small so Father Bauer decided to build a new one. The old house was moved to the rear of the old church and faced on Clover street, serving as a residence for school teachers and later, remodelled and enlarged, was one of the two small homes used as living quarters for the Sisters of Notre Dame. When, in 1909, the site was needed for the construction of a new residence for the Sisters, this building was sold to Frank House and moved to 825 Baker street. Although additions and improvements have been made, the house still stands and is the home of Mr. House.

CONSTRUCTION OF OLD BRICK RECTORY

It was in the year 1864 that the large brick priest's house, the one razed in 1955, was constructed. In the meantime Father Bauer lived in a house at the southwest corner of Croghan and Wood streets rented from Patrick McGahan, and remained here until the

THIS PHOTOGRAPH WAS TAKEN SHORTLY AFTER THE BUILDING OF THE OLD RECTORY IN 1864. THE OLD CHURCH IS TO THE RIGHT.



INTERIOR OF OLD ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH DECORATED FOR EASTER

new accommodations at 708 Croghan were ready. This old house, too, still stands, in later years having been moved from its original site to what it now 809 Croghan street.

THE CEMETERY

In this same year, in the month of August, Father Michael O'Neill of St. Ann's and Father Bauer, bought a tract of land covering nearly 15 acres, for a cemetery, St. Joseph's taking the north half of it. The purchase price of \$1,400 was met by both parishes. Up to this time most burials were made in Ludwig cemetery, close to what is now called Gabel's Corners, at least five miles to the southwest of the town.

FORTY HOURS DEVOTION

Forty Hours Devotion was held for the first time in St. Joseph's in the Holy Week of 1864. It is interesting to note that there is a tradition in St. Alphonsus's church, Peru, Ohio, that Forty Hours Devotion was introduced there for the first time in the United States by the Venerable Father John Nepomucene, c. ss. r. (1811-1860), later bishop of Philadelphia, Pa., in the year 1841.

FUNDS VIA FUN NOT NEW

As of October 7, 1866, the St. Joseph's Society took on new life and was organized exclusively for the spiritual benefit of its members. Nevertheless social activities were not neglected especially if there was some hope of making any money for the benefit of the church. At the society meeting of September 1, 1867, it was proposed to have a benefit boat-ride with half of the profits to go directly to the parish and the other half to the society treasury.

The steamer "Evening Star" was chartered and early on the morning of Thursday, September 12, 1867, left the dock at Fremont with 550 passengers bound for Sandusky, Kelley's Island and Put-In-Bay. The Fremont Band went along and was paid \$20.00 for its services. The "Fremont Journal" in announcing the excursion promised that it would be a delightful trip "especially at this season when the vineyards are just ripening their luscious fruit." The society records show that John Horn (1837-1896) sold the most tickets, 84, and that his table on the steamer took in the most money, \$107.32. This was one of the most successful social events of the early days, the net profit from the venture

amounting to \$619.81. The following year another boat-ride was undertaken but the profit amounted to only \$569.19.

ASSOCIATION OF THE LIVING ROSARY

1867 also saw the organization of the Association of the Living Rosary in the parish. This Association had its origin in 1826, when it was founded by Pauline Jaricot (1799-1862) of Lyons, France, a prodigious lay worker, prototype of Catholic Action, who is perhaps better known for having also founded the Society for the Propagation of the Faith in 1822. The Association of the Living Rosary consists of a number of circles or divisions of fifteen members who each agree to recite a single determined decade of the Rosary each day and thus complete the whole Rosary, fifteen decades, between them. The St. Joseph's Association is still very active with 75 divisions.

1867 also saw the addition of two more bells to the old St. Joseph's tower, while the fourth, the Angel bell, still used for all baby funerals, was procured in 1870. 1867 also saw the introduction of illumination by gas in the old church.

A NOTE OF SADNESS

On March 3, 1869, a faithful member of the parish and a prominent member of the St. Joseph's Society, died. This was the first time that the whole Society accompanied by the pastor followed the casket of a deceased member to the grave, even though there was not much time to notify the membership and the weather the day of the funeral was very inclement. This was Lambert Haberstroh (1811-1869) who had also been a church councilman. Father Bauer praised him as a Christian gentleman not only at the Requiem Mass on the day of his burial but also at the first meeting of the society after the funeral, May 7th.

REORGANIZATION OF THE ALTAR SOCIETY

August 1, 1869 witnessed the reorganization of the Altar Society. When Father Bauer started to write up the history of this society he stated that he tried to trace its foundation to Father Molon, first pastor of the parish, but that he found it was organized by Father Moes in 1861. The society did not produce all the results expected by Father Bauer, so he formulated new rules which would

enable it to carry out its mission. This was a society for the women of the parish and the dues were only ten cents a month. There was no badge to designate members. At least in the early years, girls of 16 could become members. The dues are still very low and yet through the years this organization has seen to the needs of the altar; the altar cloths, candles, vestments and the other accessories needed around the Holy of Holies. Their accomplishments are among the unsung services rendered to God and known only by Him.

FIRST VOCATIONS TO THE RELIGIOUS LIFE

There has been a good deal of speculation in the parish as to the first vocation to the religious life from the congregation. After diligent research, the following seems to present the true picture.

As far as can be learned, the first to leave St. Joseph's to join a religious community were the Fischer (now spelled Fisher) sisters, Anna and Agatha, daughters of Nicholas Fischer and Mary Geiger, who on December 6, 1869, applied for admission at the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Mary in Buffalo, N. Y. These religious were popularly known as the Ladies of the Sacred Heart of Mary and then as now they were "Religious in modern dress" and as such have accomplished great things; the Order does not wear a habit, but dresses in neat and sedate street clothes like some of the very recently founded Sisterhoods.

Anna was born in 1851 and died in Cleveland in 1886 her grave being in the cemetery across the street from what was formerly St. Joseph's Orphan Asylum, 6431 Woodland Avenue, Cleveland. Unfortunately, very little is known of her religious career, but of Agatha who was born in Fremont on September 3, 1854, the distinguished record is quite complete. She died at the Indian mission at Spanish, Ontario, some one hundred miles to the East of Sault Ste. Marie, on January 21, 1929, and is buried there. For some few years she taught in St. Mary's school in Sandusky, Ohio, but all the Daughters were recalled from there in 1893 after having taught there for 35 years, since they were needed in other places. Sister Agatha spent many years in the Indian missions in Ontario, Canada, and whenever she was allowed to return home for a short vacation she spent most of her time collecting clothing for her needy Indian charges. The

spirit of self-sacrifice inspired these two daughters of the parish; it has inspired many others and it must be instilled today.

The next to leave for the convent was Caroline Spies, who was born in Germany about 1854 and arrived in Fremont about 1866. For several years she served as nurse-maid for Fanny Hayes (born 1867) daughter of Rutherford B. Hayes, later President of the United States. Her sister was housekeeper at Spiegel Grove. Caroline entered the convent of the Sisters of St. Francis at Joliet, Illinois, on January 31, 1874, and became Sister M. Bertha. She died in the Motherhouse at Joliet on October 28, 1931, after having done splendid work in the Community.

Veronica Reineck, daughter of John Reineck, Sr., entered the same convent on January 2, 1877, and was professed as Sister M. Seraphica. She died at the Motherhouse in Joliet on January 13, 1950. Of her the Sisters wrote: "We revered Sister Seraphica; hers was a beautiful and saintly soul." Born February 12, 1860, she would have been 90 had she lived another month.

SODALITIES ORGANIZED, 1871, 1872

Father Bauer was ever alert to organize his parish into various age groups and in every instance it was spiritual development he had in mind. So it was that on December 8, 1871, he organized the single ladies of St. Joseph's into the Sodality of the Blessed Virgin under the title of the Immaculate Conception. The age for admission was 18. Although the Sodality was formally erected and was affiliated with one in Rome it is doubtful that it had any real connection with the original Sodality erected in Rome in 1563 by the Society of Jesus at the Roman College, for that Sodality was erected under the title of the Annunciation. This same observation may be made in reference to the Marian Sodality introduced for the young men of the parish on January 12, 1872, under the title of the Assumption of Our Lady (Maria Himmelfahrt). This was usually referred to as the Y.M.S. (Young Men's Sodality) and here too the age for admission was 18. For many years it was known as the Sodality of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, although a book of rules and regulations published in 1903 takes for granted that it was founded on the original Roman Sodality, and then in 1921 at a reception into the Young Men's Sodality it is called the Sodality

of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This does not bear out with the original documents. St. Aloysius was selected as the Patron Saint for the young men, and St. Agnes was chosen for the ladies.

PHOTOGRAPHS

It was shortly after the organization of the Young Men's Sodality on January 12th and before February 5th, 1872, that photographs of Father Bauer and the St. Joseph's Society, the Ladies Sodality and the Young Men's Sodality were taken. Copies of these three pictures are jealously guarded by those who still possess them. Here the societies appear in the regalia of the time. The letters found here stand for: P, President; VP, Vice President; SR, Secretary; S, Treasurer (Schatzmeister); and A, Assistant (There was a "first" and "second" Assistant). Besides this there was a Marshal and a Banner Bearer. Each organization had a valuable and artistic banner. And the reason for Father Bauer's beard? He was only 37 at the time and since he was then preparing to go on a trip to Europe the story is that he thought the beard would make him look not only older but more dignified.

FATHER BAUER JOURNEYS TO EUROPE AND THE HOLY LAND

An intellectual giant, Father Bauer could not claim a strong body. Often during his life he was plagued with serious illness and after one long siege of sickness that lasted from 1868 to 1872, he took a trip to Europe and the Near East, leaving Fremont on February 5, 1872. In Jerusalem he was created a Knight of the Holy Sepulcher and was decorated with the cross of the Order, one of his most prized possessions. He returned to Fremont after his extensive travels on November 28, 1872, amidst the general rejoicing of his entire parish.

THESE ALSO SERVED

During Father Bauer's absence, the parish was in the care, first by Father John B. Kanzleiter, S.J., who was here from March 17th to August 4th, and then by Father Silvan Rebholz who remained from August 4th to November 28th. April 14th, 1872, saw the consecration of the Most Reverend Richard Gilmour as the second bishop of Cleveland.

INSTITUTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CONFRATERNITY

July 6, 1873, saw the institution of the Blessed Sacrament Confraternity by Father Bauer. It had at its inception 93 members. Ten divisions, each headed by a monitor, kept prayer hour daily from two to three p.m. The society continued to grow until today it counts 772 members in 12 divisions. This may be designated as the most important parish society for its end is absolutely spiritual, and yet its financial contributions to St. Joseph's has run into the thousands of dollars. These faithful women are the honor guard before the Blessed Sacrament and in all kinds of weather you will see them kneeling before the tabernacle offering vocal prayer to Our Lord in the Sacrament of the Altar. Truly the parish owes its real spiritual status to the generosity, fervor and sacrifice of this band of valiant women. They wear a distinctive badge when they receive Holy Communion in a body and when they attend the funeral of a member, and this badge is buried with them. Now this badge is a large Blessed Sacrament medal attached to a large red bow of ribbon for the general membership, to a purple bow for the monitors. Formerly the badge was a very large heart of silk which was suspended from the neck by purple ribbon. Imprinted in gold on the heart was a chalice, grapes and wheat, and a prayer to the Blessed Sacrament in German.

GROWTH OF THE PARISH

The parish grew and developed rapidly. Already in 1873, only sixteen years after the founding of St. Joseph's, Father Bauer had visions of a larger and grander church, so on November 3, 1873, lots 227 and 234 were purchased from Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Wilson and deeded to Bishop Gilmour the same day. This was on the south side of Croghan street at the Wood street corner.

PASSING OF A PATRIARCH

January 30, 1874, was saddened by the death of the parish patriarch, Jacob Gabel, Sr. He was without a doubt the oldest member of St. Joseph's when it was founded. Born in Dussenheim, Alsace, on January 30, 1784, he arrived in Buffalo, N. Y., on September 29, 1829, and came to Lower Sandusky, now Fremont, in 1835. Long before a Catholic church was established here, Father Machebeuf said



OFFICERS OF THE ST. JOSEPH'S SOCIETY IN 1872

FIRST ROW, left to right: John Horn, F. J. Giebel, Reverend S. Bauer, D.D., Joseph Stuber.

MIDDLE ROW: Charles Ochs, Andrew Loschert, Michael Ochs, Conrad Werner, Joseph Haaser, Daniel Reineck, William E. Kaiser.

THIRD ROW: Michael Miller, John Reineck, Sebastian Walby, Benjamin Bartson.

Mass in his house. On January 20, 1808, he married Barbara Niebald, and from this union there were three sons and three daughters, among these a son, Joseph Gabel (1809-1891), who was also an illustrious son of St. Joseph's. Jacob Gabel, Sr., was one of the first four councilmen of St. Ann's. His descendants now number in the hundreds, many of them still residing in St. Joseph's parish, but many others living in other places.

WATER FROM THE RIVER JORDAN

When Father Bauer returned from the Holy Land, he brought with him a small bottle of water from the River Jordan. A parishioner he had always greatly admired was Frank J. Giebel, Jr. When the

first child was born to Mr. Giebel and his wife Clara, Father Bauer baptized her Hedwig (Hadie) on February 20, 1876. A Latin notation to the side of this entry in the baptismal register shows what happened to the water from the Jordan for here he recorded: "This daughter was baptized with water from the river Jordan which I had previously blessed as baptismal water. This I drew from the spot where Our Lord was baptized by John, and in the year 1872 brought it back with me."

BACK TO SCHOOL

Here we pause to again observe the progress of the school. It is to be regretted that records of some of the years have been lost, but after the resigna-



OFFICERS OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY SODALITY (organized 1871) in 1872

TOP ROW: Rose Horn (single); Caroline Gabel, (Mrs. John Busold); Mary Tischler, (Mrs. Peter Straup)
 SECOND ROW: Mary Fischer, (Mrs. Philip Bork); Mary Eighel, (Mrs. Ed. Schwartz); Sophia Wolfe, (Mrs. Jacob Gabel); Veronica Rice, (Mrs. George Shiets); Anna Spies, (Mrs. Adam Gompert); Mary Gerber, (Mrs. Theo. Fuchs).
 BOTTOM ROW: Helen Fuerst, (single); Dr. Bauer; Frances Durand, (single); Mary Haverstroh, (Mrs. Adam Keller).



OFFICERS OF THE YOUNG MEN'S SODALITY SHORTLY AFTER THEIR ORGANIZATION EARLY IN 1872

TOP ROW: John Swint; Joseph Wolfe; John Busold
 SECOND ROW: Peter Welker; Berthold Ochs; John Stoiber; John Stuber; Martin Oberhauser; Albert Wolfe.
 BOTTOM ROW: Andrew Rimelspach; Frank Giebel; Dr. Bauer; J. George Fischer.

tion of George Held in 1865, the name of another lay teacher, Joseph Geisel, is found under the date of October 1, 1866, and then nothing more until the mention of Frank Rohner in 1868. He was also the organist and dated this same year is the brief notation: "Rohner concert, \$20.00." Still another name, that of a Mr. Long, is passed along by tradition, but where he fitted into the school picture is not clear. All these school teachers left the scene and disappear completely, with the exception of Mr. Held.

From about 1870 to 1876, two ladies took over as teachers at St. Joseph's. These were Miss Frances Durand, a native of France, and Miss Helen Fuerst, a native of Germany, both born in 1835. They served well until the arrival of the Sisters in 1876, and were long remembered by their pupils. Both left Fremont at the end of their teaching career for a two year period (1876-1878), but then returned and opened up a little store where they sold religious articles, school books and supplies, and notions, at 813 Croghan street. Miss Fuerst died on April 21, 1901, and Miss Durand on December 13, 1910. They will also be recalled, Miss Fuerst as President, and Miss Durand as First Assistant at the founding of the Blessed Virgin's Sodality in 1871.

THE NOTRE DAME SISTERS ARRIVE

Lay teachers taught at St. Joseph's until 1876, in which year the Notre Dame Sisters of Cleveland arrived. These were known as the Sisters of Notre Dame of Muehlhausen, an Order which found refuge in this country during the persecution in Germany known as the "Kulturkampf." The first Sisters, three in number, were, Sister Mary Ferreria, Sister Mary Raphaele, and Sister Mary Celsa. One of the early sisters was Sister Mary Irmgardis. Sister Mary Celsa maintained correspondence with her old pupils until her death in Covington, Kentucky, on May 20, 1832. Until late in 1928 she resided at the Provincial House in Cleveland. For 81 years now, the Notre Dame Sisters have devotedly and tirelessly served this parish, their ranks having grown from three to twenty-three.

PROFESSOR ALOIS MENKHAUS

On September 18, 1876, about the same time the sisters arrived, a timid German boy knocked on the door of the priest's house and told Father Bauer

that he was there in answer to his advertisement for an organist. This was Prof. Alois Menkhaus who played his first High Mass in old St. Joseph's on Sunday, September 24, 1876, and who was to remain and preside at the organ for 62 years.

FIRST HINTS OF CHRISTMAS CRIBS

The first hints of the construction of Christmas Crib are found in the book which records the expenditures of the Altar Society. The first entry is from the year 1876 and merely states: "Green material for the Christmas Crib, \$1.30." This was after the arrival of the Sisters so they might have had a great deal to do with the decorating necessary for the first Crib. In August 1877 there is an entry for: "Shells for the Christmas Crib, from Put-In-Bay, \$6.00," and as of December 18, 1877, "3 bundles of artificial moss." For December 20, 1880 there is an entry: "Tree-bark and trees for Crib, 50 cents and \$1.75." The photograph taken of the Christmas Crib in the old church in the year 1880 is perhaps the oldest extant picture of an American Crib.

THE "KINDHEIT JESU" SOCIETY IS INTRODUCED

But Father Bauer did not fail even to organize the little children into a society. In 1878 he started the Kindheit Jesu Verein (Association of the Holy Childhood). This was already in his mind the previous year for in October 1877 he already purchased a statue of the Child Jesus for this society. The society as such had been founded by the Most Reverend Charles de Forbin-Janson, Bishop of Nancy, France, in 1843. Pope Pius IX, by a Brief of July 18, 1856, raised it to the rank of a canonical institution. In order to be a member of the Association of the Holy Childhood it is necessary to give a contribution of one cent monthly, or a yearly contribution of twelve cents, and to recite daily a "Hail Mary" with the addition of, "Holy Virgin Mary, pray for us and for the poor pagan children." Although all the children were enrolled in this society, about 1890, boys from seven to twelve were allowed to join the Engel Verein (Angel's Society) and they dressed in red cassocks and lace surplices on great feast days. The badge of the Holy Childhood Society was a band of red ribbon worn over the left shoulder with a little gold medal tied by a white ribbon so attached that it would rest over the heart of the wearer.



Father Bauer and the girls of St. Joseph's school in 1876.



Father Bauer and the boys of St. Joseph's school in 1876.

A RESIDENCE BECOMES AND REMAINS A SCHOOL

On the eastern third of the property secured in 1873, that on the south side of Croghan street, a new priest's house was built in 1878, so that it would be handy to the proposed new church; but it never served as a residence for the clergy. There was an urgent need for more school rooms and soon the whole building was converted into class rooms, and this structure served as a school until 1908.

THE COURT OF MARY

In 1881 the Hof Mariens (Court of Mary) was organized. This was formed for girls from the time they made their First Communion (then at the age of twelve) to the age of eighteen, at which time they joined the Blessed Virgin's Sodality. The girls in this society wore white dresses for all the church processions. Over their left shoulder they wore a wide band of ribbon sky-blue in color, on which was found in brilliant gold lettering the words: "MONSTRA TE ESSE MATREM"



SECOND AND THIRD GRADES, 1905-1906 TERM IN A CLASSROOM OF THE 1878 SCHOOL

Rows by pairs, left to right:

FIRST ROW: Rose Slavinsky, Leona Dumminger; Gertrude Dolwick, Olga Wensinger; Elizabeth Swint, Gertrude Babione; Aloys Horn, Joseph Basch; Herman Setzler, Stany Halm; Carl (Pete) Wilhelm, Joe Miller; Raymond Busold, Vernon Swint.

SECOND ROW: Mary Hoffer, Matilda Gabel; Gertrude House, Marie Schuck; Hildegard Wasserman, Margaret Gurney; Richard Recktenwald, Isadore Halm; Henry Rosmiarek, William Kovaleski; Urban Leite, Seraphin Good; Albert Abowd, Zienta; Raymond Mayle, Lawrence House.

THIRD ROW: Bertha Klos, Ursula Wasserman; Lucille Steinle, Rose Mary Lehr; Eva Welhelm, Luella Ochs; Genevieve Binder, Josephine Mang; vacant, Ross Abowd; Sidney Rock, Alois Babione; Steve Jankoviak, Stan Wolf; Unidentified, Alfons Saller.



The simple Christmas Crib in old St. Joseph's in 1880. This is perhaps the oldest photograph of any Crib in the United States.

The 1878 school which stood to the east of the new church where the new Rectory now stands. It was torn down in November 1954.



(Show thyself a Mother), taken from the hymn: "Ave Maris Stella." There was also a distinctive badge in deeper blue which the membership wore. The counterpart of this society for the boys, boys from twelve to twenty, was the St. Stanislaus Bund (St. Stanislaus Society), formed in 1889.

THE GREAT STRIDE: GROUND BROKEN FOR THE NEW CHURCH

In the meantime money was collected for the construction of a new church, Father Bauer always being a firm believer in the "pay as you go" policy. The ground for the new construction was broken on the southeastern corner of Croghan and Wood streets on Monday, September 5, 1881. The basement work started at once.

THE CORNERSTONE IS PLACED

On the afternoon of Sunday, April 30th, 1882, in the twenty-fifth year of the parish, in the fifth year of the reign of Pope Leo XIII, the cornerstone of the new St. Joseph's was laid. It is estimated that more than five thousand persons gathered for this ceremony. The stone was blessed by the Most Reverend Richard Gilmour, Bishop of Cleveland, after which the stone was lowered into place by the architect, Mr. J. C. Johnson.

EX-PRESIDENT HAYES DEPOSITS BOX WITH DOCUMENTS

A sealed copper box was deposited into a cavity in the stone by ex-President Rutherford B. Hayes, after which another stone was placed upon it. On the parchment enclosed in the copper box was inscribed a record of the event, the condition of the parish at the time, and references to contemporary history, but worthy of quoting were the following words written by Father Bauer:

"Mention must be made of the wonderful good feeling existing between Catholics and Protestants in this city; they feel they are one body and work for one social and public end and all religious asperity is eliminated for which the great good Father in Heaven be praised." Fremont then counted 8,436 inhabitants; the congregation consisted of 210 families and 1150 persons. Sister M. Ildephonsa, S.N.D., had trained the youngsters who sang that day and gave each one a holy picture to remember the day.

PROGRESS

In a single year the thick walls went up and the edifice was under roof, so much so, that when Father Bauer celebrated the Silver Jubilee of his ordination to the Priesthood on June 13, 1883, the festivities were held in the unfinished church. In 1887 he commemorated his twenty-fifth anniversary as pastor of St. Joseph's. Work on the interior decoration of the church progressed only as funds were available.

AN UNFORTUNATE AND COSTLY ACCIDENT

The cornerstone to the right of one entering the church has a matching stone to the left, both single blocks, large and heavy. It will be noticed that the stone to the left has a facing $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick. Soon after the stones were in place, a boy who was playing, inadvertently threw a rock and damaged this block, so Father Bauer had to have the stone cut back and the facing put in place. Although several boys knew who had caused this damage they went to their graves without revealing who had made this costly fling.

FATHER BAUER'S CIVIC PRIDE

In 1885, August 2nd, the anniversary of the Battle of Fort Stephenson and Croghan's Victory in 1813, fell on a Sunday so the event was celebrated on Saturday, August 1st. This was a special celebration in 1885, since on this day the Sandusky County Soldiers' Monument was to be dedicated with great ceremony. The spire on the church was now nearly finished and Father Bauer showed his civic spirit by fastening an American flag high on the tower. This was the highest flag flown in the city for the occasion.

IRREMOVABLE RECTORATE FROM 1889

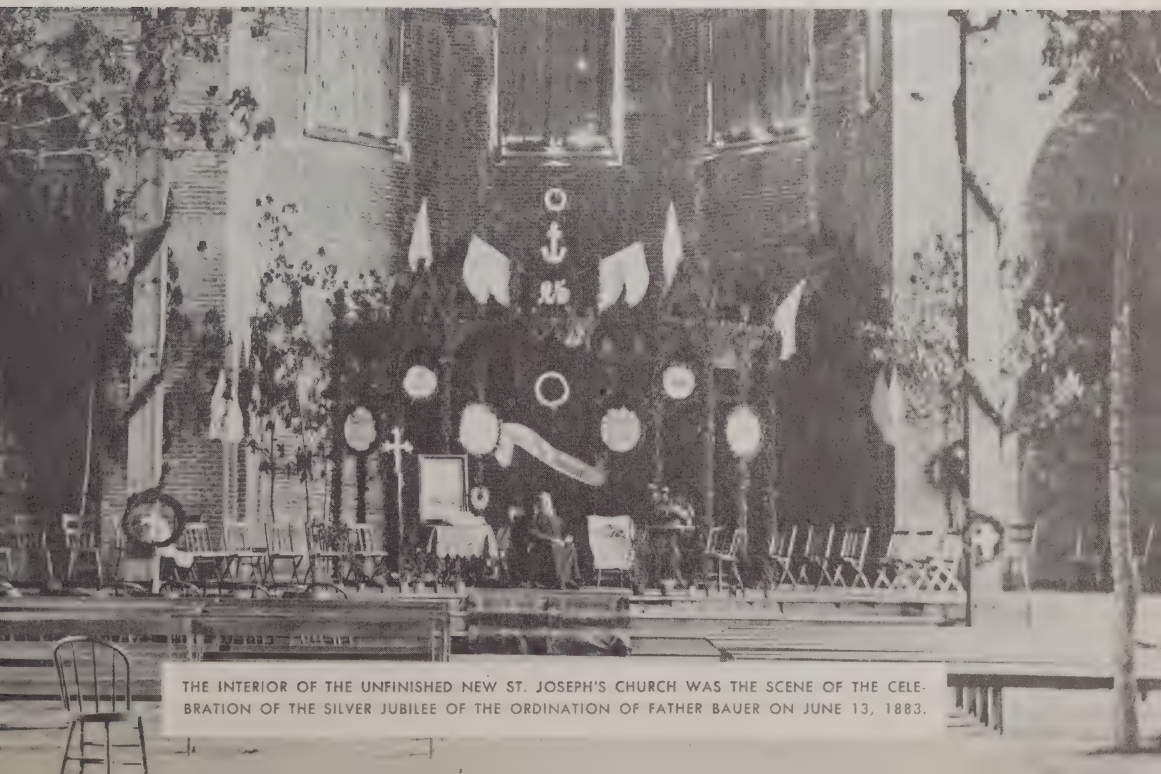
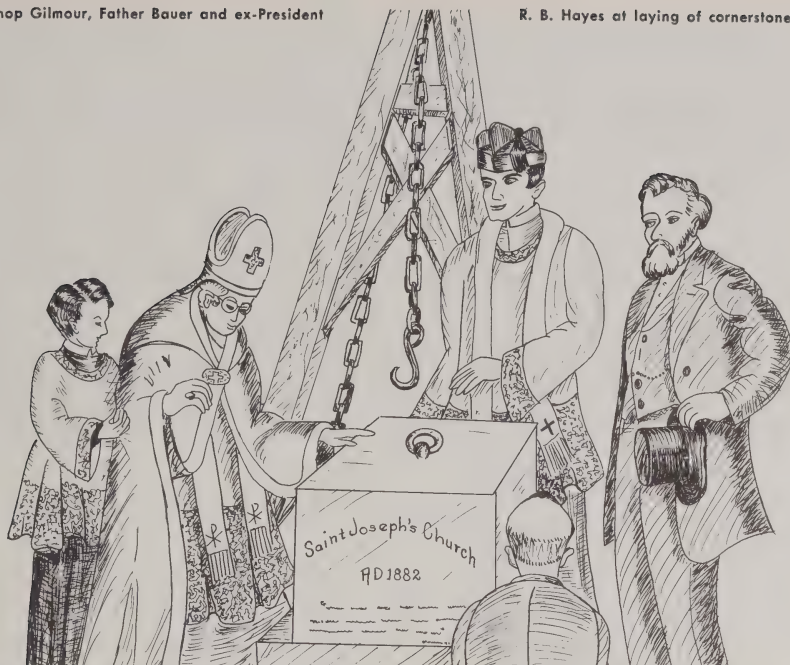
St. Joseph's was made an irremovable rectorate in the Cleveland Diocesan Synod of 1889.

CONCERNING THE "WONNEKRANZ," BAZAARS AND FESTIVALS

These few lines about the Festivals at St. Joseph's are inserted between the years 1889-1890, for the Grand Bazaar, a series of eight special festive days, was held at the end of the year 1889 and the beginning of 1890, at a time when the facilities of the spacious new church were used before its dedi-

Bishop Gilmour, Father Bauer and ex-President

R. B. Hayes at laying of cornerstone of the new church.



THE INTERIOR OF THE UNFINISHED NEW ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH WAS THE SCENE OF THE CELEBRATION OF THE SILVER JUBILEE OF THE ORDINATION OF FATHER BAUER ON JUNE 13, 1883.



UPPER CLASSES — 1887

TOP ROW: Hadie Giebel, Ida Horn (*Sister Mary Seraphin), Frances Schwartz, Rose Busold, Mary Buchman, Katie Gabel (*Sister Mary Priscilla), Mayme Schmidt, Rose Geller, Mary Suder, Clara Moore, Mattie Shiels.

THIRD ROW: Clara Zimmer (*Sister Mary Julie), Mary Rosanski, Mary Oberhauser, Anna Giebel, Anna Dummering, Minnie Busold, Hadie Hunt, Mayme Werich, Laura Hochanadel, Katherine (Sophie) Frank, Clara Hunsinger, Mayme Marbach, Mayme Winters.

SECOND ROW: Stan Buchman, Joe Walde, Seraphin Welker, Hans Hochanadel, Ollie Shiels, Christ Blechinger, Ed Stuber, Alois Miller, Isidore Horn, Alphonse Schmidt, Ed Schwartz

FIRST ROW: Louis Schwartz, Joe Buchman, Joe Yeager, Charles Smola, Charles Kaylor, Andy Guenther.



SECOND AND THIRD GRADES, 1889

TOP ROW: Hedwig Chudzinski, Clara Meykemmer, Helen LeJeune, Martha Masloch, Mayme Horn, Ida Toeppe, Dora Ochs, Ida Foerstner, Rose Gompert, Rose Wasserman

THIRD ROW: Anna Dummering, Maude Walde, Wallie Kahler, Mary LeJeune, Marie Gottron, Mary Kowaleski, Marie Wolf, Maggie Meykemmer, Lavina Horn, Hilda Horn, Hilda Kaiser, Matilda Bletcher, Gertrude Grunenwald, Clara Hauck

SECOND ROW: Al Freeh, Tony Kettner, Stan Novitski, August Thoma, Will "Bill" Schwartz, Jack Schoedler, Frank Homan, Al Kowalski, Phillip Smith, Hugo Naderer

BOTTOM ROW: Frank Chudzinski, Will Schwartz (Jackson St.), Gregory Frank, Alois Gabel, Tony Cunningham, Al Moore, John Marbach, Joe Saner, Zeno Mehling, Charles Heim, George Dummering, Leo Thoma.

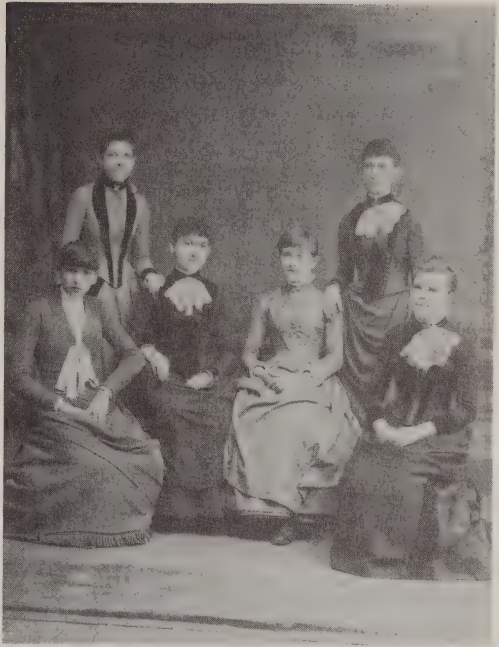
cation as a sacred temple. But the start of the festivals which were called "Wonnekranz" goes back many years before this. The term "Wonnekranz" has never been explained but it must have referred to the joyous festivals in Germany when the "Wonnekranz," a festive garland or wreath was used as a decoration for grand occasions. Some of the earliest St. Joseph's festivals were held in the Old Opera House, also called Heim's Hall, the third floor above 311 to 315 West States Street. Here for one festival was exhibited and demonstrated one of the first telephones a few years after it had been invented by Alexander Graham Bell in 1876. There was a good deal of the P. T. Barnum in Father Bauer and he would have been a good match for any promoter of our own day.

MONEY RAISED BY VARIOUS CONTESTS

Several Bazaars were held in the "Rink," a large hall for rollerskating once located on the south side of State street in the 500 block with the entrance a little to the west of Justice street. There were always contests for "The Most Popular Married Lady," "The Most Popular Single Lady," and "The Most Beloved Child," with appropriate costly prizes, the prizes being awarded to the ones who received the most votes, the votes being sold by the contestants themselves or by those interested in securing the prize for the contestants. But now to quote Father Bauer: "Win or lose, your highest prize in the contest should be the doing of a meritorious work and the lasting gratitude of St. Joseph's Congregation for your sacrifices in its behalf."

THE GRAND BAZAAR

The final day of the Grand Bazaar was announced on a hand-bill designated as Bulletin No. 8, with the date January 8, 1890. This was the last held in the yet unfinished new church. Allow the handbill to speak for itself as it raises expectations in the following quotation: "What full measures of pure joy have we not quaffed from the blissful cups of the Bazaar in that grand and airy hall of the new St. Joseph's, that, like a second heaven, rises majestically up to heaven?—in that royal hall soon to be consecrated to the purely divine? The loss of not attending the Bazaar tonight is irreparable." Before the turn of the century, oyster suppers were one of the methods of raising money. But then as



Some of the young ladies who tended the booths for the Grand Bazaar of 1889-90.

now the success of church festivals and socials depended on the sacrifices of the workers.

FIRST DOUBLE RING WEDDING CEREMONY

On June 17, 1890, William Yeager was united in marriage to Miss Celia Horn. A newspaper clipping under that date reports: "The nuptial knot was tied by the Reverend Father Bauer and was the first wedding in St. Joseph's church where two rings were used in the ceremony." Styles certainly change as will be realized when we read a description of the bride's dress: "a handsome dress of heliotrope surah with French brussels net and lace trimmings."

A PAGE FROM THE DIARY OF EX-PRESIDENT HAYES

Ex-President Hayes in his "Diary" for September 9, 1890, wrote: "This evening attended at the urgent request of Father Bauer a banquet to the State Council of the Catholic Knights of America . . . My speech, humorous, offhand, and in recogni-

tion of Catholic friends in the war—Rosencrans, Scammon, etc.—exceedingly well received.”

A STRANGE TRAIN OF EVENTS

It was the firm resolution of Father Bauer to use the new St. Joseph's for religious services only after the edifice was complete in every detail and then only after it had been dedicated by the Bishop. In the "Fremont Daily News" for February 27, 1891, was a very short item stating that preparations were being made for the dedication of the new St. Joseph's church on the Feast of St. Joseph, March 19, 1891. But early the very next morning after this announcement, Saturday, February 28th, a man who was on his way to work at 5 A.M., discovered that the old church was on fire. Although the fire department was called at once and responded rapidly, the whole interior of the church was ruined by heat and smoke. The heat was so intense that it melted the lead organ pipes in the choir loft. The fire itself was concentrated around the main altar. Public opinion pointed to incendiarism for there was a hole in the foundation directly under the altar and it was surmised that it was set on fire here. The real cause was never discovered but older parishioners tell still another story. It seems that as soon as Father Bauer made the announcement that the new church would soon be dedicated, he hastened to Cleveland to complete arrangements with the bishop. A Franciscan priest from St. Joseph's Friary in Cleveland, Father Boniface Depmann, O.F.M. (1841-1912), was left in charge of the parish for a few days. In the middle of the night he was called out on an urgent sick-call and after having opened the tabernacle so that he could take the Sacred Host with him to administer Holy Viaticum, he forgot to extinguish the two candles. From one of these it is supposed the altar caught on fire, or at least this is one of the stories told.

FIRST SERVICE IN THE NEW CHURCH

It so happened that on February 26, Frank Joseph Reineck had died and his burial was to take place on the morning of the 28th. With the old church now burned out, Father Depmann decided to conduct the funeral services from the new church, rites attended by a vast throng of parishioners. Records do not state that there was a Requiem Mass for it does not seem that the altar was yet ready. It is a strange coincidence that a Reineck was the first to

have been buried from the old church and also from the new. The next morning, Sunday, March 1st, a special Mass was arranged for the German parishioners at old St. Ann's at 9:30. It would appear that the first Mass said in the new St. Joseph's was on Sunday, May 8, 1891.

LAST IN THE OLD, FIRST IN THE NEW CHURCH

Here it will be well to call a halt to moving events and look over the church records to insert information which may be of interest to some members of the congregation. We have already recorded that Frank Reineck was the first to be buried from the new church.

The last wedding in the old church was that of John Speidel of Buffalo, N. Y., and Josephine Ochs, an event of January 21, 1891. Father Bauer officiated at this marriage with special solemnity for Miss Ochs had been the faithful Secretary of the Blessed Virgin Sodality. The newly wedded couple went on to Buffalo to establish their home, a home which always provided a welcome for Fremont visitors. Mr. Speidel died in February, 1946, and Mrs. Speidel in July, 1955. Two sons were born of their union, Linus and Edwin. Linus died at the age of 23 in his Deacon year at Niagara Seminary only a few weeks before he would have been ordained. The younger son, Edwin, now resolved to take his brother's place, and after surmounting many difficulties was ordained, and is now a zealous and exemplary priest of the diocese of Buffalo.

Sunday, February 22nd, 1891, was the last day Baptism was administered in old St. Joseph's, Father Bauer having baptized six infants on that day, the very last of which was Emilia Helen, daughter of George Bundschuh and his wife, Anna Darr. The first baptism in the new church was that of Estella Maria, daughter of Frank Freeh and his wife, Maria Geschwind, on Sunday, March 8, 1891. She is now Mrs. George Haynes.

The first marriage in the new church was that of Matthias Edmeier and Margaret Dolkel on April 13, 1891, Father Bauer officiating.

REASON FOR THE DEDICATION DELAY

A little more than a month later, on April 13th, Bishop Richard Gilmour, who had been head of the Cleveland diocese for 19 years, died. Early in March, on account of serious illness, he had been

advised by his physician to go to Florida, and it was there he died. His successor, the Most Reverend Ignatius Horstmann, was consecrated Bishop at Philadelphia on February 25, 1892, and arrived in Cleveland on March 8th. All this occasioned the delay in the dedication of the new church.



REV. JOSEPH WIDMANN

FIRST SON OF ST. JOSEPH'S ORDAINED

A month after his arrival in Cleveland, April 8, 1892, Bishop Horstmann ordained a son of St. Joseph's, the Rev. Joseph S. Widmann. He said his first Mass in St. Joseph's the following Easter Sunday, April 17th. He was appointed to St. Mary's church in Sandusky, Ohio, later becoming pastor of the parish and died there on December 10, 1918.

THE PIPE ORGAN

As St. Joseph's new church neared completion, Father Bauer gradually revealed more of its marvels. Next in order was the official presentation to the congregation of the new pipe organ in the form of a grand organ concert held at 8 o'clock in the evening, August 15, 1892. The organist for this occasion was Prof. Walter E. Hall of Chicago, Illinois. Of course the St. Joseph's choir was included in the musical program. The organ was built by Farrand and Votey of Detroit, Michigan. At the

time of its installation it counted 1976 pipes and cost \$5,538. For many years the bellows were operated by a water motor but in Father Rieken's time after he announced on Sunday, January 12, 1913: "No services this afternoon on account of motor," an electric motor was installed. Shortly after the arrival of Father Arnoldi, the organ underwent a complete overhauling, it was entirely electrified, and nine new ranks or stops were added, so that at the present time it is one of the finest instruments in the vicinity.

THE SITE FOR A NEW SCHOOL IS PURCHASED

1893 was to be the year of the dedication of the new St. Joseph's church. The church was already free from debt as can be deduced from the fact that on January 28th of this year, lot 200 adjoining the rectory to the west, the northeast corner of Croghan and Wood streets, was purchased at the cost of \$8,250. This was known as the "Tyler property" and was procured from "H. S. Buckland and others." At the time a Leonidas H. Cress was living in the old brick house which stood here. Although this was purchased as the site for a new and much needed school, the ancient brick building was remodelled in 1895 and became a school for higher classes and the start of a high school and remained as such until in 1907 when it was torn down to make room for the new school.

THE CYCLONE OF 1893

The lot and the building soon after the purchase thereof became the stage and the backdrop for near tragedy which struck early on the morning of Tuesday, May 23, 1893. Only 47 days from this date the solemn dedication of the new St. Joseph's church was to take place. For some months now the large gilded cross rising 250 feet above the city could be seen miles and miles away by everyone who was travelling on any of the many roads which led to Fremont. But this morning at 7:15 a cyclone struck, moving in a north-easterly direction. The tall spire of St. Joseph's took the full brunt of the terrific winds. The cross was blown off and landed 200 feet away in the yard of Mr. Cress. An account of the day reported that: "The steeple itself leans to the north and east." Later it was stated: "The damage to St. Joseph's church is greater than one would suppose as the steeple is badly wrenched and



This old house on the north side of Croghan street at Wood was purchased in 1893 and became a school for the higher classes in 1895. It was razed in 1907 to make room for the 1908 school.

On the morning of May 23, 1893, the cross was blown off the steeple of St. Joseph's, 200 feet across the street. The building in the rear housed higher classes from 1895.

**EIGHTH TO 11TH GRADES IN 1906-1907 SCHOOL YEAR
IN BUILDING USED AS A SCHOOL FROM 1895**

FIRST ROW (to right): Carl Yeager, William Fiegelist, Edith Babione, Mattie Kaiser.

SECOND ROW: Carl Kaiser, Marie Menkhaus, Leona Keller, Mayme Stuber

THIRD ROW: Carl Zimmer, Urban Gompert, Raymond Ochs, Theresa Walters, Margaret Bogner, Irene Adamski

FOURTH ROW: Francis Werner, Leo Ahner, Carl Schmittuz, Anna Setzler, Frances Miesle, Blanche Hasselbach

FIFTH ROW: Rose Haas, Rose Wyss, Leona Wyss.



will probably have to be rebuilt." There was other damage to the church too, but it was quickly repaired without much ado and everything was again in readiness for the dedication ceremonies.

THE DEDICATION, JULY 9, 1893

The dedication took place on Sunday, July 9, 1893, an occasion marked by the first visit of Bishop Ignatius F. Horstmann to Fremont. The Most Reverend Bishop blessed the new church at 9 o'clock and this ceremony was followed by a Solemn High Mass sung in the presence of the bishop. The St. Joseph's choir had practiced for this event for months and all who were present were deeply impressed. The dedication sermon was in German and was delivered by Father Herman J. Kamp, S.J., (1836-1893), curate at St. Mary's church in Toledo. (Father Kamp died a little more than two months later on September 15th.) Bishop Horstmann spoke fervently and briefly in both German and English and then imparted his blessing. At the end of the Mass both voice and organ thundered a glorious "Te Deum." Father Bauer's great dream at long last had been realized.

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW CHURCH

The cost of the completed St. Joseph's church was more than \$100,000; today it could not be duplicated for a million dollars. The exterior design of the church was suggested by the Cathedral of Our Lady in Freiburg-in-Breisgau, Germany, which has the most beautiful facade of any single-spired church in the world, a cathedral which Father Bauer had seen many times before he came to the United States. The St. Joseph structure is built in a simplification of this Gothic style. Although Father Bauer suggested the type of building he desired and had a great deal to do with its plans, a great deal of credit is due to the Fremont architect who prepared the blueprints and supervised the construction of the building, Mr. J. C. Johnson.

MORE DETAILS CONCERNING EXTERIOR ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES DESIGN

The structure is constructed of red pressed brick with ornate sandstone trimmings. The steeple, almost 250 feet high, is surmounted by a sixteen foot cross. The sandstone capitals above the many columns and the corbels supporting the window arches are objects of great beauty and show the results of hours of patient carving by skilled arti-

sans. The pinnacles at the base of the spire were also Gothic gems but since they too were of fragile sandstone they did not withstand the ravages of time and weather and in 1914 Father Rieken had them replaced with less-artistic ornaments of galvanized iron. The church building itself is 162 feet long and 71 feet wide.

THE INTERIOR

The magnificent High Altar of carved oak, the splendid side altars, the brilliant stained-glass windows, the massive pillars, the intricate groin-ribs of the ceiling, all speak eloquently of the infinite pains Father Bauer took to make this truly a House of God, one with no equal in this part of Ohio. Originally the ceiling was painted a medium blue relieved here and there by the application of gold-leaf stars.

PERMANENT MEMORIALS

Although funds had been collected through the years to pay for the construction and decoration of the church, individual gifts which were to serve as permanent memorials were also received. It is no more than just to enumerate these memorials and their donors not only as a gesture of gratitude to those generous parishioners of sixty-four years ago but also to fulfill Father Bauer's promise that these would be permanent memorials. This will also spur the present generation on to comparable sacrifices for the great honor and glory of God.

A LIST OF DONORS

Donations from the St. Joseph's Society paid for the high altar. St. Joseph's altar was donated by the Catholic Knights of America who gave \$1,178. This society was once very strong in Fremont, but though the organization as such still exists in the United States, the Fremont branch was discontinued about 1905. The Altar Society gave \$1,000 for the Blessed Virgin's altar.

STATUES

The imported statues were donated by the following:

Blessed Virgin Mary by Mr. and Mrs. John Mravinz

Saint Joseph by Max and Joseph Wolf

Saint Boniface by the Catholic Knights of America

Saint Gertrude by the Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality



INTERIOR OF ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

Saint Rose of Lima by the Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality

Saint Aloysius by the Young Men's Sodality

Saint Francis of Assisi by Mr. and Mrs. John Babione

Saint Anthony of Padua by Mrs. Joseph Hottinger, Sr.

Saint Agnes by the Court of Mary

Our Lord in the Sepulcher by Ambrose Ochs, Sr. (This statue was formerly exposed under the Blessed Virgin's altar after the Good Friday ceremonies. The whole panel under the altar was removed and painted cloth was arranged to look like hewn-out stone to represent the Sepulcher of Our Lord.)

The Resurrected Lord by John and Catherine Mravinz

The Pieta by Mrs. Frances Leite. (This was placed in Dr. Bauer's Mausoleum by Father Rieken, but another Pieta was later procured for the church.)

The Sacred Heart of Jesus by Mrs. Caroline Busold.

THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Stations of the Cross were imported from Innsbruck, Austria, and were donated as follows:

I F. J. Swint

II Young Men's Sodality

III George Rimmelpach, Sr.

IV Blessed Virgin Sodality

V John Gottron

VI Court of Mary

VII Mrs. Peter Morbach

VIII Blessed Sacrament Confraternity

IX Mr. and Mrs. John Babione

X Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Horn

XI Peter Gabel

XII Jacob Gabel, Sr.

XIII Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hottinger

XIV Mrs. Joseph Kaiser, Sr.

TRANSEPT WINDOWS

The large windows in the transept, that is, behind the confessionals, were donated by the following:

On the east side, one by Peter Gabel, and the other by G. F. Buchman.

On the west side, one by Father S. Bauer, and the other by John Horn in memory of his wife Catherine.

THE SANCTUARY WINDOWS

Perhaps the most attractive feature of the interior decorations of St. Joseph's church is found in the sanctuary windows which are splendid examples of Munich stained and painted glass. These cost \$1,000 each. They represent from left to right: The Annunciation; The Nativity; The Crucifixion; The Holy Family at Nazareth; and The Coronation of Our Lady in Heaven.

OFFER A PRAYER OF THANKS

The next time you enter St. Joseph's look around for a moment or two and revalue these beautiful memorials and then before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament offer up a prayer for the repose of the souls of these pioneers who have bequeathed you such a rich heritage to assist you in your own personal devotions to Almighty God and His saints.

SCHOOL EXHIBIT AT WORLD EXPOSITION

The World's Columbian Exposition was held at Chicago, Illinois, in 1893. From September 4th to the 9th of that year a World's Columbian Catholic Congress was convened. In connection with this there was an exhibit of the work done in Catholic schools. Father Bauer instructed the Sisters to select the best examples of the work of pupils at St. Joseph's school and prepare the material for exhibit and so it was that the school was represented in the adjoining alcoves numbered 31 and 33 of the Liberal Arts Building at the Exposition, in the spaces reserved for the Cleveland diocese. This material is still preserved in the parish archives. Frank J. Giebel, Jr., of this parish was Vice President of the Cleveland diocesan delegation on September 5th, the second day of the Catholic Congress.

THREE PRIESTS IN ONE FAMILY

On October 24, 1893, Father Bauer officiated at the marriage of Charles Edward Miller of Sandusky and Eleanor Rose Houck of St. Joseph's parish. This marriage, like so many hundreds which took place in the church would go unnoticed were it not for the fact that from the large family with which this couple was blessed three sons were called to the Priesthood. The family settled in Springfield, Ohio, and so it is that Father Gregory, Monsignor Cletus, and Father Norbert Miller are serving illustriously in the Cincinnati diocese.

THE OLD CHURCH BECOMES A PARISH HALL

In November 1893 the old church was converted into a hall for the use of the many parish societies. At the north end a stage was constructed. These boards saw many a dramatic presentation by the young men and women of the congregation up to the time the auditorium on the third floor of the 1908 school was in readiness. Here were held the various church festivals, here were presented lantern-slide lectures, here basketball was introduced at the turn of the century, and here Father Bauer gathered the children of all the grades annually on October 17th, his birthday, and threw candy into the midst of them and then stood back to watch the mad scramble as they sought to get their share of the sweets.



The Reverend Seraphin Bauer after he received the title of
Doctor of Divinity.

DOCTOR OF THEOLOGY

On February 7, 1895, Father Bauer was honored by the Holy See in receiving the Doctorate in Theology from the Sovereign Pontiff, Pope Leo XIII, and was invested with its insignia by Bishop Horstmann. The document was dated November

27, 1894. From the day he received this coveted honor the people addressed him as "Doctor," and that is why even to our day when his memory is recalled he is always referred to as Doctor Bauer.

FIRST ELECTRIC LIGHTS

For the first time electricity was used to illuminate the high altar on Sunday, December 22, 1895. This was sixteen years after Edison produced his first electric lamp. The rest of the church was illuminated by gas lights, fixtures being affixed to two sides of every pillar. Electric lights were first introduced into the body of the church by Father Rieken in 1912.

INTRODUCED MANY RELIGIOUS CUSTOMS

But Doctor Bauer is recalled especially on account of the way he celebrated the various Feasts of the Church; Christmas, Palm Sunday, Easter. Already in the old church there was an attempt to construct a Christmas Crib, simple as the results turned out to be; but the new church offered greater possibilities. Here the whole Blessed Virgin's altar was covered with a wooden framework over which was stretched painted and sanded cloth so that it presented the appearance of a great hill of rock. This was the cave of Bethlehem. The statue of the Blessed Virgin remained in place and at her feet was the straw-filled manger in which was a wax image of the Infant Jesus. Each year some young mother of the parish had to see that the hair on this image was perfectly curled and the little dress had to be freshly ironed. The statue of St. Joseph was brought over from the niche on his altar and was placed a little to the left of the manger. The lily which he held in his left hand was replaced by a lantern. Animals, wild and domestic, large and small, were placed here and there on shelves projecting from the artificial rock. All in all it was a spectacular presentation.

THE GREAT CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION OF 1895

It was for the Christmas of 1895 that the genius of Dr. Bauer reached its zenith for it was on this day that for the first time was presented what was called "The Journey of the Shepherds to the Crib." Only in the Middle Ages could one have seen such a ceremony in a church. This was all before the



The Christmas Crib of 1895 with girls from the Court of Mary dressed as Angels.

era when the Midnight Mass was commonplace and services in St. Joseph's at this time started at three in the morning. First the image of the Infant was placed on a pillow on the High Altar with fitting ceremony. Then followed a procession of the various children's societies and the altar boys, with Dr. Bauer carrying the image to the Crib. Twelve young girls selected from the Child Jesus society, dressed as angels, welcomed the procession with recitation and song. When they sang the "Gloria," twelve young boys, members of the Angel society, dressed as shepherds, started to descend a temporary stairs built in front of St. Joseph's altar, that is, the Epistle side, a stairs made to resemble a rocky hillside. One carried a lamb, two played shepherd's flutes, and the others had shepherd's crooks. They answered the song of the angels with the German equivalent of: "We have heard your voices, we be-



THE SHEPHERDS AT CHRISTMAS, 1895: (bottom to top) John Morbach, Alois Gabel, Zeno Mehling, George Hochenadel, Ralph Horn, Harry Gottron, Cletus Smith, Otto Menkhaus, Frank Adamski, (next two unidentified) and George Dummering.

lieve the words. What has happened? What do we find there?" After marching through the church they arrived at the Crib where they ceremoniously presented their gifts. There were musical interludes during these Christmas presentations in the church, some years by members of the Light Guard Band, and others by Prof. Samuel Wertheim's orchestra. Of course the choir under Prof. Menkhaus always sang the favorite German hymns. It was not until 5:00 in the morning that high mass began. This custom continued until the Christmas of 1906. All those who had the good fortune to be present at any of these Christmas services, Catholic and non-Catholic alike, never forgot the deep spiritual emotions they experienced. All this is here briefly recapitulated so that coming generations may have a backward glance at the Christmas observances of long ago.

PALM SUNDAY

On Palm Sunday one of the principal ceremonies was the procession around the outside of the church. Only the celebrant and a few of the older servers carried palm branches, all the rest of the servers and the Angel Society, boys from eight to twelve dressed in red cassocks, carried a gilted pole of about six feet in height surmounted by a cross. Just under the cross a large ball of evergreen twigs was affixed to the staff and from this fell two streamers of wide purple ribbon.

EASTER SUNDAY

Easter Sunday was also celebrated with special splendor. Perhaps that which is best remembered was the symbolic unveiling of the statue of the Risen Saviour which had been placed high up on the principal altar. Between the two Masses of Easter Day, foods were blessed with a special Easter blessing. Nearly every family brought at least a small basket of meat, bread, cake and of course Easter eggs, and in some instances bottles of beer and wine.

CATECHISM QUIZ FOR FIRST COMMUNION

In Dr. Bauer's time those who were to make their First Communion had to be at least twelve years old. If many details of Dr. Bauer's life were completely forgotten one particular custom was never blotted out from the minds of those who made their First Communion during his pastorate. The candidates for First Communion had to appear in the middle aisle of the church and then before their own classmates and the assembled congregation, had to face Dr. Bauer while he gave them their examination in Catechism. This oral examination was exacted from all before they could make their First Communion. This was an ordeal never to be forgotten.

A MAN OF GREAT ABILITY

We are concerned here only with what Dr. Bauer accomplished as pastor of St. Joseph's and not with his many other activities and achievements in the service of his bishop and the Diocese of Cleveland. All this may be found in other accounts of his life.

RUBY JUBILEE

On June 13, 1898, Dr. Bauer completed forty years in the Priesthood and this, his Ruby Jubilee,

was celebrated with great solemnity in St. Joseph's in the presence of Bishop Horstman and many dear friends among the clergy, together with his proud parishioners.

FORTY YEARS AS PASTOR OF ST. JOSEPH'S

On September 28, 1902, Doctor Bauer completed his 40th year as pastor of St. Joseph's. The congregation fittingly celebrated this event which fell on a Sunday, and it was on a Sunday, the same day of the same month that he had said his first mass in the parish, but in some of the remarks in his sermon of this day it could be detected that his great mind had lost some of its brilliance. Doctor Bauer was beginning to fail.

SISTER M. IMELDA, S.N.D., DIES

A little less than two months later, on November 24, 1902, the Venerable Sister Imelda of the Sisters of Notre Dame, a teacher at St. Joseph's School, died. The funeral services were held on Wednesday, November 26th, but Dr. Bauer could not conduct them for his illness at this time confined him to his bed. At the Solemn Requiem Mass, the Rev. Casimir Reichlin of Cleveland was celebrant. Father Joseph Koudelka of St. Michael's Cleveland, preached. The burial took place in St. Joseph's cemetery, Sister Imelda being the only nun interred in this cemetery.

AN ASSISTANT ARRIVES

When it was brought to the attention of the bishop that Dr. Bauer's health was deteriorating, he wanted to send an assistant but Dr. Bauer would not hear of such a thing. Finally he consented and in June 1905, Father Cantius N. Faist, C. P. S., arrived in Fremont as assistant to the pastor.

THE RETIREMENT

Even though he now had a very willing helper, Dr. Bauer persisted in carrying on his work and the baptismal register shows his name till December 24, 1905. His last appearance before the congregation was on the first Sunday of January 1906, on which Sunday the pews were rented for the year. Now he underwent a complete nervous breakdown and in July 1906 he went to the hospital in Dearborn, Michigan, for treatments. Here he remained until August 1907 when he entered the Kneipp Sanitarium at Rome City, Indiana. His foster-sister



HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN 1903

TOP ROW: Alphons Barth, Otto Wasserman, Dr. Bauer, Alban Mehling, Urban Geller

FOURTH ROW: Frank Freeh, Leander Fiegelist, Martin Baumer, Theodore Bogner, Hugo Wasserman, Joseph Chudzinski

THIRD ROW: Gertrude Faos (Ochs), Clara Mayle, Nellie Mayle (Sullivan), Estella Gabel (Arata), Afra Fey (Walsh), Katherine Wolf (Knause), Marie Welker

SECOND ROW: Elizabeth Klos (Stierwalt), Mayme Hochenedel (Baumann), Estella Schwartz (Swint), Lucy Gabel (Hankinson), Cordula Kiser (Gabel), Leona Menkhous (Pease).

FIRST ROW: Hazel Freeh, Agnes Rice, Theresa Keilhofer (Oberhauser), Mayme Stuber (Burkett), Anna Rose Ochs (Comte), Coletta Schmittuz (Gabel).

was Mother Josephine of the Sisters of the Precious Blood who were in charge of the sanitarium. Dr. Bauer in the meantime made several brief visits to Fremont and on these occasions the younger school children had their one and only glimpse of this exceptional priest.

GOLDEN JUBILEE

It was at Rome City that Dr. Bauer quietly celebrated the Golden Jubilee of his ordination on June 13, 1908. Lawrence A. Giebel was the official representative of St. Joseph's on this occasion and he tendered the greetings and best wishes of the parish.



THIS IS THE SIXTH AND SEVENTH GRADES TAUGHT BY SISTER MARY LEONTIA IN THE
1903-1904 SCHOOL YEAR

From Left to Right: **FIRST ROW:** Albert Woerne, Oscar Gabel, Carl Dumminger, Adam Keller (later ordained), Marie Giessinger, Edith Babione, Leona Keller, Rose Novitski, Steve Halm, Anthony Gracheck, Thad Klos, Carl Yeager

SECOND ROW: Ursula Hochenedel, Frances Walter, Louise Kiser, Eleanore Rimmelpach, Carrie Jenck, Anna Blechinger, Katie Edmeier, Cecelia Wojniowski, Rose Blechinger, Marie Menkhaus, Cecelia Schmittuz, Sarah Haaser

THIRD ROW: Clara Wolf, John Wyss, William Fiegelist, Louise House, Theresa Reckenwald, Lorena Gropp, Marie Schuck, (next two unidentified), Harry Schneider, Gertrude Wasserman, Marie Leite, Marie Shertinger

FOURTH ROW: William Ketterer, Conrad Heschel, George Heschel, Eugene Heschel, Estella Freeh, Gertrude Hasselbach, Stella Dumminger, Edwin Ahner, Carl Kaiser, Carl Freeh, Rose Schuck

FIFTH ROW: George Boukissen, Alvin Bihl, Charles Ochs, Cyril Lehr, Ralph Kaiser, Reverend Doctor Bauer, Urban Good, Lawrence Haaser, Edmund Ahner.

DEATH OF DOCTOR BAUER

Though he had the best of care and much needed rest, his health and strength did not return, and after lingering on for nearly three more years, Dr. Seraphin Bauer passed to his eternal reward on Sunday, April 2, 1911. His body was returned from Rome City, Indiana, and he was buried from his beloved St. Joseph's church on Thursday, April 6th. At the Pontifical Requiem High Mass, the Most Reverend Joseph M. Koudelka, Auxiliary Bishop of Cleveland (later, 1913, he became Bishop of Superior, Wisconsin) pontificated. A sermon in German was delivered by his friend of long standing, Father Casimir Reichlin, of Cleveland; and the English sermon was preached by another close friend, Father Nicholas Pfeil, also of Cleveland.

The funeral procession to the cemetery, led by the Light Guard Band, a musical organization dear to the heart of Doctor Bauer, could be compared only to that of ex-President Rutherford B. Hayes in January, 1893. Doctor Bauer's remains now rest in a mausoleum in St. Joseph's cemetery. A priest is often forgotten in death, for he leaves his parental home to serve strangers. Never pass his tomb without whispering a prayer for the repose of his soul. Doctor Bauer was a symbol of St. Joseph's parish for half a century; fifty years from now his memory should still be alive.

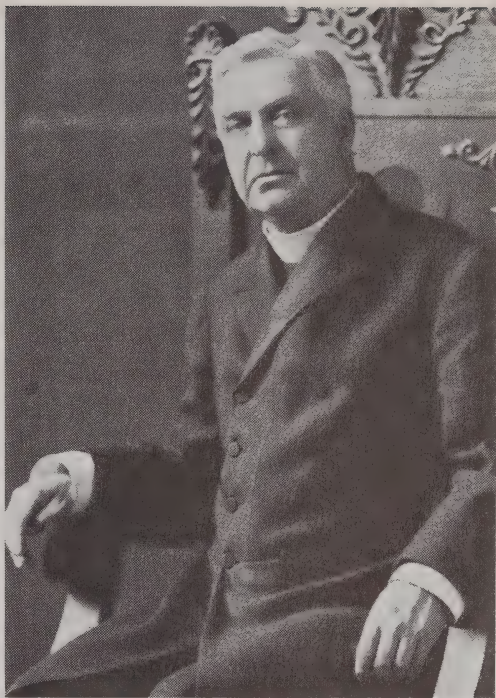
FATHER CANTIUS N. FAIST, C.P.P.S.

Following the last days of Doctor Bauer, we have neglected to follow a chronological order in the St.

Joseph's story. As we have already stated, Father Cantius N. Faist, C.P.P.S., arrived in Fremont as an assistant in June, 1905. He was born at Forstenbach, Amt Ackern, Baden, Germany, on October 3 1873, and entered the Congregation of the Fathers of the Precious Blood on February 1, 1901. His ordination to the Priesthood took place on June 23, 1904, so that he was still full of the fervor and zeal which characterizes every newly ordained priest when he arrived here. He did his utmost to carry the burden and brighten the remaining days of the beloved rector of St. Joseph's but his task was not an easy one. Practically the two years he was here he had full charge of the parish, working diligently for the welfare of the people, always carrying on the traditions of Doctor Bauer and praying and hoping that he could soon welcome him back home. Then, owing to the protracted illness of Doctor Bauer, it was found necessary to appoint an administrator for the parish and this was Father Frederick Rupert, who received this appointment on June 22, 1907. On the very day Father Rupert arrived, Father Faist left Fremont for a short visit with relatives in Germany. Although this splendid priest was here for only two years, he was deeply revered by the parishioners, and those who knew him will ever cherish his memory. After serving his Society in many places, going wherever he was sent, he was appointed pastor of St. Michael's church in Frank, now Marywood, Ohio, in March 1916. Here he also had charge of the celebrated Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows. His last illness was of only a week's duration during which he was moved to the hospital in Bellevue, where he died on December 1, 1937. He was buried in the Precious Blood cemetery in Carthage, Ohio.

FATHER FREDERICK RUPERT

The Reverend Frederick Rupert arrived in Fremont on June 22, 1907, as administrator of St. Joseph's parish "pending the infirmity of the Rev. Dr. S. Bauer, Rector." He was the first American-born priest to serve St. Joseph's, his birth having taken place at Massillon, Ohio, on November 21, 1846. His early studies were interrupted first by the Civil War and later by an eye malady. Resuming his studies he was graduated from Assumption College, Sandwich, Ontario, Canada, and then entered St. Mary's Theological Seminary in Cleveland, and at the completion of the course there was ordained



MONSIGNOR FREDERICK RUPERT
Administrator of Saint Joseph's, June 22, 1907—
February 3, 1910

priest by Bishop Gilmour on July 5, 1879. Before coming to Fremont he had served in Antwerp, Cecil, Hicksville, Delaware Bend, Shelby, Maumee, Bellevue, Norwalk, and most recently had founded St. John's parish in Lima. During these twenty-eight years he had a vast experience in building churches and schools.

A MAN OF ACTION

Father Rupert arrived on a Saturday, and the very next day, Sunday, June 23rd, he already called a meeting of the church councilmen and proposed to them the necessity of building a new school at once. A mass meeting of the entire parish was called for Sunday, July 7th, at which time it was decided to go ahead with the construction of the school. There was a reserve fund of a little more than \$22,000 built up by Dr. Bauer on hand for a start. In the meantime a census was taken up and as of September 6, 1907, it was found that there



CEREMONIES AT THE LAYING OF THE CORNERSTONE OF THE SCHOOL, MARCH 22, 1908

Father Patrick O'Brien of Toledo, once pastor of Fremont St. Ann's, delivering the masterful English oration of the day. Bishop Horstmann and Bishop Koudelka also appear in the picture. To the right is seen the old Priests' House.

were 2,387 parishioners and 481 Catholic families belonging to St. Joseph's.

BIDS FOR SCHOOL LET

The bids for the new school were opened on September 13, 1907, and the contract was awarded to Charles M. Wolfe, contractor, for \$53,434.75. It was estimated that the completed building would cost \$80,000. Excavation for the structure started on September 23rd. At this time the old house purchased in 1893 and used for higher grades and high school purposes since 1895 was razed to make way for what is at the present time termed the 1908 school.

GOLDEN JUBILEE PASSES

Sunday, December 8, 1907, was the Golden Jubilee of St. Joseph's parish but it passed without any kind of a celebration.

LAYING OF THE CORNERSTONE OF 1908 SCHOOL

The cornerstone for the new school was blessed by Bishop Horstmann, assisted by Bishop Koudelka, on Sunday, March 22, 1908, and though the day was raw and cold, thousands assembled for the event. Church services had preceded the out-of-door ceremonies, the sermon in church having been preached in German by Father Nicholas Pfeil of



As sturdy as the day it was completed stands the 1908 St. Joseph's Grade and High School

Cleveland, but the principal oration of the day was delivered in English out-of-doors and at the very side of the cornerstone by Father Patrick O'Brien who had formerly served as pastor of St. Ann's, Fremont, but who at this time was pastor of Good Shepherd church in Toledo. After this Bishop Horstmann preached another sermon in English. Less than two months later, May 13, 1908, this beloved prelate died suddenly while at St. John's church in Canton, Ohio.

AN IMPORTANT MISSION

A Mission was preached by two Apostolate Fa-

thers from Cleveland for two weeks from March 29th to April 12th, 1908, with German sermons in the forenoon and English in the afternoon. Nearly 1700 persons received Holy Communion during this Mission. Sermons preached during this Mission and which were published in the newspapers, brought about a long and bitter controversy between Father Rupert and Rev. W. E. Tressel, pastor of Grace Lutheran church, a matter which has now been all but forgotten. All the details may be found in the daily papers of that time.



JUNIORS AND SENIORS

A typical room in the 1908 school. This pictures Seniors and Juniors in the War year of 1918. The faces here include, Seniors: Gerald Gabel, Urban Horn, Teresa Babione, Clara Binsack, Magdalen Gabel, Lucille Gropp, Marcella Halm, Lucy Held, Marcella Mosser, Anna Rose Measley, Marie Nusbaumer, Hilda Riesterer, Henriette Smith, Eva Swint, Helen Welker, and Loretta Wilhelm. Juniors: Carol Binsack, Cyril Haubert, Herman Leite, Carol Mayle, Carol Wasserman, Gerald Welker, Ralph Weltin, Francis Wurzel, Casildes Babione, Cecilia Decker, Bertha Britton, Emerence Gabel, Lucille Kiser, Lauretta Krebs, Catherine Malkmus, Clara Mary Ochs, Irene Rimelspach, Marguerite Setzler, Irene Stepniak, Imelda Tischler, and Beatrice Hottinger.

ARRIVAL OF FATHER HENRY WAECHTER

On July 3, 1908, the Reverend Henry Waechter (1881-1953) who had been appointed as Father Rupert's assistant, arrived, but he remained only till the middle of 1909. He was the brother of Father Joseph Waechter later pastor of St. Joseph's.

DEDICATION OF SCHOOL

The school building was solemnly dedicated on Sunday, September 27, 1908, by the Most Reverend Joseph Koudelka, auxiliary bishop of Cleveland. On October 15, 1908, all the school children, 405 in number, attended classes for the first time in the building now called the 1908 school.

USED FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL

In the meantime a new public school was being constructed to replace the very old Hayes Avenue

school when on December 2, 1908, the temporary quarters the pupils were attending, the old American Business College on Whittlesey street, was destroyed by fire. The classes taught by the Misses Carr, Atkinson and Schreffler were transferred to the old 1878 St. Joseph's school where they remained for the rest of the winter months.

A NEW BISHOP OF CLEVELAND

On May 1, 1909, the Most Reverend John P. Farrelly was consecrated in Rome as the new Bishop of Cleveland.

A NEW SISTERS' HOUSE

The old Sisters' House on Clover street was sold at auction on August 23, 1909. Excavation for the new residence was commenced on May 21st and the work progressed so rapidly that the Sisters moved into the new house on November 6, 1909, although the structure was not yet quite finished.



SIXTH GRADE IN 1908 SCHOOL, 1918

FIRST ROW: Anna Giesinger, Valeda Wasserman, Anna Rose Wyss, Mary Howell, Bertha Weltin

SECOND ROW: Ruth Knott, Gladys McKenney, Florence Smith, Angela Smola, Esther Haubert, Stella Dummering, Genevieve Buchman

THIRD ROW: Rosella Binsack, Barbara Ripple, Edna Metz, Irene Young, Anna Rose Miller, Margaret Lutz, Helen Bletcher

STANDING: Dolores Gropp, Marcela Wensinger, Marie Wirt, Ray Hiebel, Walter Krupp, Edmund Mosser, Carl Spieldenner, Walter Sneider, Theodore Mehling, James Gfell, Robert Recktenwald, Carroll Hiebel, Aloys Edmeier, Alphonse Lejeune, Seraphin House, Sylvan Wasserman, Paul Spieldenner, Tony Baumer, Walter Reed.

FIRST SCHOOL PAPER

Under the date line of January 1, 1910, "*The Josephinum*," a monthly publication of the pupils of St. Joseph's School appeared but it did not long endure.

CUSTOMS DISCONTINUED

Under Father Rupert's administration the beautiful customs introduced by Dr. Bauer were discontinued. In order to increase the fund for payment on the school debt the animal figures used in Dr. Bauer's Christmas Crib were sold at auction at one of the church festivals, and it was not until in 1916 that a Crib was again erected for Christmas.

MOVED TO DELPHOS

On January 28, 1910, Father Rupert received his appointment as irremovable rector of St. John the Baptist church in Delphos. Not a word of this was breathed to the people of St. Joseph's, so much so

that when the word leaked out the good Sisters frantically tried to have the school children bring in their donations for a going-away gift. A preaching stole was ordered from Toledo and then as more and more money came in the phone was kept busy as the Sisters kept buying a still better one until the very last moment.

THE DAY OF PARTING

The news of Father Rupert's change was received with genuine sadness by the parishioners. The day of departure was Thursday, February 3, 1910, and after Mass that day Father Rupert gave the two servers pearl-handled pocket knives, but they were no more than mementos for the blades were broken! When Father Rupert arrived at the depot to take the afternoon Lake Erie and Western train for Lima (He arrived there at 4 p.m. and changed trains for Delphos where he arrived at 4:45) he found about 1500 parishioners gathered there to bid him



MONSIGNOR GEORGE H. LANG
Administrator of St. Joseph's Parish from February 3, 1910 to
January 5, 1912

farewell. All this was not expected so that deep down in his heart he desired right then and there to turn around and return to the parish house and then ask the Bishop to allow him to remain in Fremont. But such was not the case and soon the train pulled out of the spur and Father Rupert was on his way to his new assignment.

ACCOMPLISHED MUCH

Father Rupert accomplished a great deal the less than three years he spent in Fremont. Sunday School was still the custom during his time and his interesting afternoon instructions are yet remembered by the school children of that period. So interesting was his method that many adults frequented these instructions. On one occasion Father Rupert substituted a timely address for his Sunday sermon and stressed the patronizing of home industries and home merchants advising the people that the way to build up the town was to loyally and enthusiastically support its own institutions and merchants. He was indeed a Fremont booster.

THE DELPHOS PERIOD

Father Rupert entered his new field of labor at Delphos with the same enthusiasm he had shown in Fremont. In appreciation of his work and in recognition of his devoted priestly life, he was made a Domestic Prelate by Pope Pius XI in September 1925. Monsignor Rupert died in his 90th year on October 13, 1936.

FATHER LANG ARRIVES

The Reverend George H. Lang was appointed administrator of St. Joseph's and arrived on February 3, 1910. Born in Randolph, Ohio, on July 13, 1877, he made his studies at St. Ignatius High School and College in Cleveland, Ohio, and at St. Mary's Seminary in Cleveland, where he was ordained by Bishop Horstman on June 6, 1903. He had served as an assistant at St. Peter's in Cleveland and was administrator at St. John's parish in Delphos from 1908 to 1910, coming to Fremont from this assignment. Father Lang had to administer to this ever growing parish without the aid of an assistant.

A NEW DIOCESE

On April 15, 1910, a decree of great importance to north-western Ohio was issued by the Apostolic Chancery in Rome, for this decree erected a new diocese to be known as the Diocese of Toledo. Temporarily the Most Reverend John P. Farrelly, D.D., Bishop of Cleveland, was designated to administer the affairs of the new diocese until the appointment of a bishop of Toledo.

ANOTHER SON OF THE PARISH ORDAINED

This was our status when a young deacon of the parish, the second candidate for the priesthood, presented himself for ordination. Thus it was that Father Louis J. Mayle was ordained in Cleveland by Bishop Farrelly on June 4, 1910. The ordination was to have taken place two weeks earlier but the Bishop failed to receive the proper papers from Rome giving him authority to ordain six men from the new Toledo diocese. Besides Father Mayle, these included Karl J. Alter, later Bishop of Toledo, and Otto C. Kappus, later an assistant at St. Joseph's. The First Mass of Father Mayle was the very next day, Sunday, June 5th. The Solemn High Mass started at 10:00 and Father Lang who had arranged all the festivities of the day, preached.

FUNERAL OF THE REVEREND DOCTOR SERAPHIN BAUER, APRIL 6, 1911



Procession of the clergy entering St. Joseph's before the funeral. On the corner is seen the McGahan house where Father Bauer lived for about two years while the old brick Rectory was being built.



Hacks waiting to take the clergy to the cemetery.



The casket is now in the hearse. The banner is that which the St. Joseph's Society carried for funerals.



An Era passes: A horse-drawn hearse carries the remains of Doctor Bauer to their last resting place.



MAY 28, 1911: FIRST COMMUNICANTS LEAVING THE CHURCH

This was the last class under the older regulation that one had to be twelve before receiving First Holy Communion.

DEATH OF DOCTOR BAUER

As related previously, Dr. Seraphin Bauer died on April 2, 1911, and was buried from St. Joseph's on April 6th. Father Lang was in charge of all the funeral arrangements.

SOLEMN AND PRIVATE COMMUNION

On August 8, 1910, Pope St. Pius X issued his decree "Quam Singulari" in which he recommended that the First Communion of children not be deferred too long after they had attained the age of reason. Soon after this, but according to the judgment of their confessor or pastor as to sufficient disposition and instruction, children who had attained the age of reason, were to be allowed to receive Communion which was to be their "private" Communion, and then only later after fuller instruction and complete preparation were they to be admitted to solemn Communion. It was on Sunday, May 28, 1911, that the last class of 12 and 13 year olds made their First Communion in St. Joseph's. Father Lang took particular pains in instructing this class.

FIRST OF PRIVATE COMMUNION CLASSES

On June 4, 1911, a class of younger boys and girls made their private Communion and at the end of the summer vacation still another class of the younger children made their private Communion.

FIRST BISHOP OF TOLEDO

Not until August 11, 1911, did the news reach Fremont that the Most Reverend Joseph Schrembs, D.D., then auxiliary bishop of Grand Rapids, Michigan, had been selected as the first bishop of Toledo. Bishop Schrembs took possession of the new diocese on the Feast of the Holy Rosary, October 4, 1911. He had arrived in Toledo the previous Sunday, October 1st, when a downpour of rain soaked the 16,000 who that afternoon paraded in his honor.

LARGEST CONFIRMATION CLASS

It was not long after this that Bishop Schrembs made his first visit to Fremont. This was on November 19, 1911, when after having confirmed a



SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADES, 1911

TOP ROW: Rose Bauer, Rose Abowd, Josephine Ronski, Clara Swint, Anna Rose Fend, Gertrude Sneider (Sister M. Eventia, S.N.D.), Mildred Wasserman.

FIFTH ROW: Hildegard Wasserman, Luella Ochs, Eva Wilhelm, Rose Mary Lehr, Bertha Klos, Matilda Gabel, Rose Edmier, Carrie Gropp.

FOURTH ROW: Gertrude Giesinger, Clotilda Walter, Gertrude Freeh, Gertrude Dalwick, Leona Dumminger, Gertrude Babione, Ursula Wasserman, Olga Wensinger, Isabelle Novitski.

SECOND AND THIRD ROWS AS HEADS APPEAR: Henry Bartson, Raymond Mayle, Cyril Kiser, Paul Snyder, Isadore Halm (Brother Gabriel, C.S.C.), Albert Abowd, Charles Nusbaumer (ordained), Albert Fiegelist, Carl Miller, Peter Weise, John Horn, Henry Rosemark, William Woerne.

FIRST ROW: Joseph Basch, Herman Setzler, Urban Leite, Aloys Horn (ordained), William Kovaleski, Richard Recktenwald, Cletus Ochs, Richard Gabel (ordained).

class at St. Ann's he was escorted in the afternoon to St. Joseph's by all the boys who were to be confirmed. It was a very cold day and the youngsters shivered as they waited for the procession to begin. This was the largest class ever to be confirmed at St. Joseph's, the boys and girls together numbering 422. On this occasion Bishop Schrembs preached not only in English and German, but also in Polish.

FATHER LANG DEPARTS

Father George Lang left St. Joseph's on January 1st, 1912, after doing noble work as administrator. His next charge was Immaculate Conception in Port

Clinton, where he remained only until August 1st when he was made pastor of St. John's in Landeck. On February 7, 1920, he was made irremovable rector of St. John's parish in Defiance, Ohio. His elevation as a domestic prelate came in 1938. Always a faithful priest, Monsignor Lang took a particular interest in the German prisoners of war who were confined for a period in 1945 in a sub-camp in Defiance, for he was the only one in the vicinity who could hear German confessions. Monsignor Lang died on April 26, 1953, and was buried at Randolph, twelve miles east of Akron, the place of his birth.



"If I Were A King," Dramatic Presentation by St. Joseph's High School Boys, May, 1911. Left to right: Cletus Ochs, Cyril Babione, William Gabel, Richard Gabel, Henry Rosmiarek, Louis Basch (seated), Isador Halm (seated on floor), Oscar Wasserman, Anthony Kowaleski, Herman Setzler, Carl Halm, Aloys Horn, Frank Rosmiarek, Robert Hasser (seated), Charles Nusbaumer (seated on floor), Fred Leite, Peter Stepniak (seated), Albert Fiegelist, John Horn, Carl Leite, Carl Miller. Also in the play were Shepherds whose dress did not fit in with the royal scene. These were: Alvin Kowaleski, Edmund Wasserman, Carl Klawitter, William Woerne and Cyril Miesle. The stage is the third floor auditorium of the 1908 school.

Dramatics

One of the biggest productions in the Auditorium of the 1908 school was the presentation of "Jaan of Arc" May 21 and 22, 1913. In the picture are: Aloys Horn, stage manager (seated on floor), Miss Jennie Taahy, Director, Dr. Otto Kappus, Assistant Pastor, Prof. Samuel Wertheim, orchestra director, and Irma Reineck, who played a solo between acts. The actors: Carl Yeager, Alban Mehleng, Edmund Wasserman, Lawrence Hasser, Lucy Gabel, Robert Hasser, Alfred Halm, Alphons Barth, Gertrude Gabel, and Carl Halm. Back row: Ed LeJeune, Fred Leite, Cyril Babione and Carl Leite. The show was produced under the auspices of the Young Men's Sodality.



FATHER RIEKEN ARRIVES

Father Gustave H. Rieken was appointed irremovable rector of St. Joseph's by Bishop Schrembs in December 1911, and took formal charge of the parish on Sunday, January 7, 1912. Gustave H. Rieken was born at Galena, Illinois, on December 23, 1855. He attended St. Louis University at St. Louis, Missouri, and St. Xavier University at Cincinnati, Ohio. A great portion of his seminary training was made at the Grand Seminaire in Montreal, Canada, but he completed his course at St. Mary's Seminary in Cleveland, so that it was there he was ordained by Bishop Gilmour on July 4, 1880. He was proficient in both French and German, and as for his English, when he preached the words seem to flow from his lips.

EARLY DUTIES

His first station was Elmore, Ohio, where for four years he did valiant missionary work, after which he was transferred to Perrysburg where during his eighteen years pastorate he constructed the beautiful stone church which still dominates this town on the Maumee. He served also in Norwalk and Bellevue, then in Fostoria for four years and in 1903 was appointed pastor of Saints Peter and Paul church in Toledo where he remained until he was named rector of St. Joseph's in Fremont.

DR. OTTO C. KAPPUS

On May 21, 1912, the Reverend Otto C. Kappus, Ph.D., was sent as an assistant and he remained until October 28, 1913. Dr. Kappus proved a valuable assistant to Father Rieken and is remembered especially for his interesting teaching methods. Having studied in Rome, he interested many in the study of Latin. Dr. Kappus was born in Carrothers, Ohio, on January 31, 1883. After having spent six years in preparatory studies at St. Charles' College, then located at Ellicott City, Maryland, he entered the American College in Rome on October 22, 1904, where he earned his doctorate in Philosophy. He was ordained in St. John's Cathedral in Cleveland on June 4, 1910. He was an assistant in Canton and Toledo before coming to Fremont. In 1924 he founded Blessed Sacrament parish in Toledo where he served until ill health forced him to retire to the chaplaincy of Notre Dame Convent in Toledo. He died on October 30, 1933.

ACTIVITIES

Father Rieken was a dynamo of activity. On De-

cember 8, 1912, he organized the Holy Name Society affiliating it with the older St. Joseph's Society. Times were changing and many improvements were now needed. Up to this time the church had been heated with hot-air furnaces. There were hot-air registers here and there in the aisles and on very cold days many a young boy stood on them to warm up before going to his pew. The skirts of the young ladies and the older women too would balloon as they walked across the registers. Boilers were now installed so that the church could be heated with a steam-heating system. Though this was a splendid improvement, the pipes to carry the heat looked like rows of telephone poles hung on the walls, and it was not until the advent of Father Waechter that these were neatly hidden behind panels of wood. In the year 1912 it was also announced that the late Reverend Doctor Bauer had left the parish with a bequest of \$5000.

FLOOD OF 1913

1913 brought disaster to Fremont, when from March 25th to the 28th flood waters raged through all the lowlands especially the business section of the town. Of the three persons drowned, one, Frank Saller, was a parishioner. There was much destruction and misery. Many of the flood sufferers needed help so clothing, food and other supplies poured in from many sources as soon as the water had receded. The old St. Joseph's church became the warehouse and supply center for the distribution of clothing.

PASTOR GOES TO EUROPE

Father Rieken had made preparations to go on a European pilgrimage with Bishop Schrembs so he departed on the afternoon of March 30th leaving the parish in the competent hands of Doctor Kappus. Many parishioners were at the New York Central depot to welcome him on his return to Fremont on June 27th. On October 28th of this year Father Henry Bushkuhl arrived to take the place of Doctor Kappus who was then given charge of St. Mary's church in Holgate, Ohio.

ALL SOULS' DAY

November 2, 1913, All Souls' Day fell on a Sunday and following the old custom afternoon services were held in the cemetery. Miss Caroline Boetsch had donated a bronze statuary group of the Blessed Mother, St. John and Mary Magdalen, which together with the crucifix already there made up a very effective Calvary group. A sodded mound now

took the place of the old raised wooden platform and above this was erected an altar-like base of brick and sandstone on which the statuary group was placed. On this afternoon the statues were blessed by Father Rieken. As usual, after the Rosary procession and sermon, the old German funeral hymns "Aus der Tiefe" and "Das Schicksal" were sung in the cemetery.

ANOTHER CHANGE

In March 1915, Father Bushkuhl was appointed temporary pastor of St. Mary's in Clyde. He had been especially interested in the Young Men's Sodality and accomplished a great deal for this group during his stay in Fremont. Father Bushkuhl was born in St. Louis, Missouri, on December 21, 1890. He was ordained by Bishop Schrembs on October 15, 1913, and died as pastor of St. Mary's church, Leipsic, Ohio, on April 23, 1953. He will be remembered by many as the first assistant to have owned an automobile, a flashy roadster. Father Rieken never had a car; for sick calls in town he walked; for those at a distance the people came after him. Father Bushkuhl was succeeded by Father George J. May, who arrived on March 19, 1915, and remained here until February 12, 1918. Father May spent a good deal of his time visiting lukewarm and fallen away Catholics and was instrumental in bringing many back into the fold. The sick of the parish also experienced his solicitude and his visits brought great cheer and comfort to the sick-room. He was gentle and soft-spoken. He will always serve as a model for those who find studying for the Priesthood a difficult undertaking for he came from a poor family and had to work his way through his entire course and then also surmounted many difficulties which the seminary course in itself presented to him. Born in St. Patrick's parish, Providence, Ohio, on December 26, 1881, his parents later moved to Leipsic, Ohio. When he finally completed his theological studies at St. Vincent's Seminary, Beatty, (now Latrobe) Pennsylvania, he was the first one Bishop Schrembs ordained in the newly erected Cathedral Chapel in Toledo, on February 24, 1915. After leaving Fremont, he served in Delaware Bend, Gibsonburg, Fort Jennings, and passed to his eternal reward as rector of St. Joseph's church in Tiffin on June 30, 1942.

FATHER HERMAN S. GABEL

On December 18, 1915, Herman S. Gabel (1885-



MONSIGNOR GUSTAVE H. RIEKEN

Rector of St. Joseph's from January 5, 1912 to May 18, 1921.

1934) a son of the parish was ordained by Bishop Schrembs in Toledo and offered up his First Solemn High Mass at St. Joseph's on December 26, 1915. In November 1923, he was appointed by the Most Reverend Samuel A. Stritch, then Bishop of Toledo, as the first director of the diocesan branch of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith and made this his principal endeavor until his untimely death on July 26, 1934. His funeral services took place in St. Joseph's but he was buried in the priests' plot in Calvary cemetery, Toledo.

ST. CASIMIR'S FOUNDED

On August 1, 1915, the cornerstone of the new St. Casimir's church was laid by Bishop Schrembs. This was established as a national church for those of Polish descent and most of the original parishioners had been members of St. Joseph's. A census

of the previous year showed that there were about 65 Polish families and some of these still retained membership in St. Joseph's. The Reverend (now Monsignor) Francis S. Legowski organized the new parish and was its first pastor.

REDECORATION OF CHURCH INTERIOR

In 1916, the entire interior of St. Joseph's was redecorated, so that for the first time the original decorations of Dr. Bauer were now hidden, and forever. The walls were artistically painted by a parishioner, Theodore Fuchs. On the tympana, one high above the arch over the Blessed Virgin's altar and the other over St. Joseph's altar, two large oil-paintings on canvas were affixed. These were: "The Espousals of the Blessed Virgin Mary" and "The Holy Family at Nazareth," both copies of original works by the eminent Munich artist Martin von Feuerstein (1856-1931). The copies were painted by Father Paulinus Trost, C.P.P.S. (1856-1939), an artist at the Precious Blood Seminary, Carthage, Ohio. He came to Fremont to see that the paintings were properly glued in place. It will be noticed that "The Holy Family at Nazareth" is also depicted in one of the stained-glass windows of the apse. The painting selected for the space above St. Joseph's altar was to be: "The Death of St. Joseph," but Father Trost did not have a print of this subject by Feuerstein so he himself substituted the one of "The Holy Family." At this time the altars, Stations of the Cross, the statues, and all the wood-work were cleaned and repainted or revarnished.

DONATIONS

Noteworthy donations in 1916 were a Christmas Crib given by Mrs. Frank Heim and a baptismal font given by Mrs. William Schwartz in memory of her mother, Mrs. Mary Nolan of Tiffin. The figures from the Christmas Crib are those still used for the Nativity scene but the whole setting has now been changed. At the end of the year there was a reserve of \$6,000 in the church treasury.

WORLD WAR I

1917 brought the most trying period in Father Rieken's life. On Good Friday, April 6, 1917, the United States declared a state of war with Germany. Nearly every week from November 24, 1915, he had sung a Requiem High Mass for the fallen soldiers in the European War; now we too were in the war. The people of the congregation never knew

how he worried during this period; how he scanned the pages of the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* every morning at breakfast for the latest war news and commented on the casualty lists. But all during World War I he demonstrated his patriotism by appearing on platforms in many localities and spoke as only he could in favor of the purchase of Liberty Bonds. In many instances this was between the two-reelers in the Strand, Wonderland, Gem and Jewel picture shows. The week of April 20, 1919, he absented himself from the parish to speak in favor of the Victory Loan in Greenville, Middletown, Eaton and Springfield. One hundred and twenty-seven young men of the parish were in the armed forces during the war.

FIRST YEAR BOOK

The graduating class of 1917 produced the first High School Annual, a publication of 82 pages. This year book and several that followed carried the title: *Juste Milieu* (The Golden Mean). Since this many "Annuals" have appeared, the name having changed to *The Josemont*, *The Voice* and the like, but all of them remain as pleasant memorials of happy school days and as a record of the "good old days."

A STAUNCH PARISHIONER IS CALLED TO HIS REWARD

On September 15, 1917, one of the older members of the parish, Godfrey Buchman, died. Born in 1837, he was not one of the founders of the parish, but came here from Tiffin in 1867. He at once entered into all the parish activities and was always a generous contributor and faithful Catholic.

IMPROVEMENTS, BUT FOR A REASON

When Father Rieken had the church redecorated in 1916 there was something special in his mind. As the months of 1917 advanced other improvements were made. The carved wooden front of the high altar was removed and a marble table and front were now put in place. This was a donation by Miss Hadie Giebel in memory of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Giebel. (The very ornate wooden front was put back in place in Father Waechter's time.) Above the altar table was installed a new tabernacle, richly gold-plated, the gift of Lawrence A. Giebel Sr. The marble table for St. Joseph's altar was donated in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Florian Schelb by their children; and that for the Blessed Virgin's altar was donated in memory of Florian



Deep was the snow when Bishop Schrembs consecrated the church on October 12, 1917.

Pfefferle by his widow. All this was done in preparation for the consecration of the church. Since twelve gold-plated crosses were needed for the consecration, these were donated by the children of Jacob Gabel Sr. These crosses will be seen attached to the walls of the church, six on either side, and each year on the anniversary of the consecration of the church these hold the candles which burn on this day.

CONSECRATION OF THE CHURCH

The day selected for the consecration of the church was October 12, 1917. The relics of St. Donatus and St. Cristophorus which were to be sealed into the altar tables, were encased in a beautiful reliquary and placed on a temporary altar in one

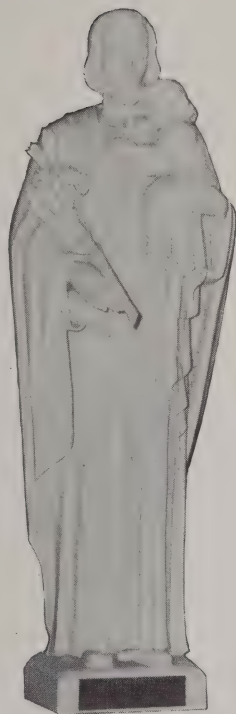
of the rooms of the old school which stood to the East of the church, a room at this time used as a meeting hall, and all through the night of October 11th members of the St. Joseph's Society kept vigil.

UNSEASONABLE BLIZZARD

October 12th, Columbus Day, brought weather that will never be forgotten by the parishioners of that time. A terrific blizzard struck with all its fury, leaving at least six inches of slushy, sloppy snow on the ground. Since three altars were to be consecrated, assisting Bishop Schrembs on this day were the Most Reverend Michael J. Gallagher, Bishop of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and the Most Reverend Joseph M. Koudelka, Bishop of Superior, Wisconsin. Bishop Schrembs preached. Despite the inclem-

ous year sh
amilies and s
in St. Jose
Francis S.
first
C





Statue of St. Joseph
on porch of new Rectory

To the right:
St. Joseph's Church
in 1957



To the left:
The Sanctuary of
St. Joseph's Church

So I look for thee in the sanctuary, to see
thy power and thy glory."
Psalm 62, verse 3.

ent weather, more than fifty priests from our own and neighboring dioceses graced the occasion by their presence.

WHITE CASSOCKS PRESENT A PROBLEM

On the following Sunday, October 14th, Bishop Schrembs officiated at a Solemn Pontifical High Mass in the newly consecrated church, and again he preached. This occasion gave Sister M. Sulpitia much to worry about. Of course she was in charge of the processions, decorations and the like, but at this period the senior Mass servers wore white cassocks. In going around the outside of the church as was necessary during the consecration ceremonies,

the bottoms of the cassocks not only became soaking wet but also soiled. All day Saturday the good Sister had to devise some means of drying the cassocks, cleaning and ironing them. But for the Sunday event everything had been remedied.

FATHER CARL REINECK ARRIVES

On February 12, 1918, Father George May was changed to Delaware Bend, Ohio, and in his place came Father Carl F. Reineck, who had been ordained on December 22, 1917. Although he was a native of Gibsonburg, Ohio, having been born there on February 9, 1892, his parents, Frank A. Reineck and Frances Schill, were born in Fremont and



THE FIRST ST. JOSEPH'S BASKET BALL TEAM, SEASON 1918-1919

FIRST ROW: Irvin Mayle, Father Rieken, Carol Binsack, Father Reineck, and Cyril Haubert.
REAR: Francis Wurzel, Herman Leite (now Father Leite), Carol Mayle, Ralph Wellin and Louis Gabel.

were married in the old St. Joseph's on October 6, 1881. Father Reineck was especially active with the reorganization of the Young Men's Sodality, and remained at St. Joseph's for a full four years.

ATHLETICS INTRODUCED

The High School Annual for 1918 used Patriotism for its theme and in all the class room pictures reproduced in this volume the American flag was prominently displayed. As a new school year opened in the Fall of 1918, the High School showed it had grown at least to such proportions that there were enough boys to warrant a basketball team, and so it was that on September 28, 1918, all the high school boys met to form an athletic association. At this meeting the following officers were elected: Herman Leite, Manager; Carol Mayle, Secretary and Treasurer; and Herbert Horn, Sports Editor. William Ketterer, already a veteran of the sport, was selected as the first basket ball coach. St. Joseph's High played eight games this first season, that of 1918-1919; won none; but it must be remembered that up to this time St. Joseph's had only a three year high school course.

END OF A WAR

World War I ended with the armistice on November 11, 1918, and St. Joseph's parish service flag showed seven golden stars to proclaim the number of young men who sacrificed their lives on the altar of patriotism.

NOTES FROM THE ANNOUNCEMENT BOOK

A few notes taken from the Sunday announcements of the time will show how the times were changing: Ice Cream socials were held on the Court House lawn Friday, July 25, 1919, and Friday, July 23, 1920. At this time there were still the weekly band concerts during the summer months and various organizations made use of this community diversion for their socials.

On January 4, 1920, it was announced that henceforth the Sacred Heart leaflets would be distributed from Miss Carrie Giebel's store.

On February 4, 1920, Father Rieken announced that: "hereafter there will be a German sermon on the first Sunday of each month."

40 YEARS A PRIEST

On Sunday, July 4, 1920, Father Rieken cele-

brated the Ruby Jubilee of his ordination to the Holy Priesthood. A celebration was held in the evening in the auditorium.

EDUCATIONAL HALL

At the very beginning of this year a meeting was held to study the advisability and feasibility of converting the old church into a gymnasium and assembly rooms for the various parish organizations. This project was undertaken and the new accommodations were opened for public inspection on the following November 21st. It is rather interesting to note how already at this time values had changed for although it is estimated the old church cost about \$7,000 to build, these improvements amounted to \$32,000.

THREE FIRST MASSES ON THE SAME DAY

Perhaps the greatest event in the life of the parish was that of May 8, 1921, when three sons of the parish sang their first High Masses in St. Joseph's. These were all members of the Precious Blood Congregation, the Reverend Fathers Charles LeJeune, Anthony Meyer and Isidore Oberhauser.

FATHER RIEKEN'S FAREWELL ANNOUNCEMENT

On the following Sunday, May 15, 1921, the entire congregation was deeply moved by an announcement Father Rieken made: he was resigning the pastorate of St. Joseph's. At 66 he felt he no longer had the strength and endurance to continue as pastor of the ever-growing parish where he had labored for nine and a half years. His last message was: "In bidding you farewell, I would ask you to be true and loyal Catholics; and also to show my successor the same love, obedience and affection you have always shown. Let us always be obedient to Holy Mother Church, keep God's holy law and thus prepared, meet our dear Lord in heaven and receive our eternal reward, our crown of everlasting life. Let us pray for one another!" And so it was that a few days later, on May 18, 1921, Father Rieken left St. Joseph's to become the pastor of a much smaller parish, St. Louis' in Toledo, Ohio. There he continued to work with the same zeal and devotion which marked his entire priestly life. But each year during Easter week and also at Christmas time he would return to visit Fremont and his many, many friends.

ALMOST TOO LATE WAS HE HONORED

On January 7, 1930, Father Rieken was invested with the robes of a Monsignor; but Monsignor Gustave Rieken was never again to appear in his robes of purple. On the Saturday following his investiture, January 11, 1930, having just returned from a sick-call, Monsignor Rieken was suddenly summoned to appear before his Creator. He had been ailing with a heart condition for quite some time. On the following Tuesday the obsequies took place in St. Louis' church and his remains rest in Calvary Cemetery, Toledo, beside those who were nearest and dearest to him.

AN APPRECIATION OF MONSIGNOR RIEKEN

Joyfully and willingly did he devote his life to the work of Christ. He possessed the happy faculty of painlessly extracting donations from the faithful, his acute sense of humor always serving him well. Father Waechter paid a beautiful tribute to Monsignor Rieken when he wrote: "Monsignor Rieken's death will be lamented not only by his brother-priests, but also by the hundreds of Catholic men, women and children to whom he so zealously ministered during the span of his service in the Lord's vineyard. Though he scrupulously cared for their spiritual needs, he was no less conscientious in his concern for their material welfare. He labored as a true priest wherever authority placed him. He was sensitive to the onerous obligations his sacred office imposed upon him, and realized, as every priest does, that for the fulfilling of these duties, God's special graces are necessary. He earnestly sought to realize in his own life the more than human ideals of the holy priesthood." St. Joseph's will always proudly revere the memory of Monsignor Rieken.

FATHER BENEDICT BURGER

Father Carl Reineck, who for more than three years had been Father Rieken's assistant, was left in charge of the parish, pending the appointment of a new pastor. In the meantime, Father Benedict Burger, who had been ordained by Bishop Schrembs on May 21, 1921, was sent to assist Father Reineck in the administration of the parish, arriving here in June, shortly after his ordination. Here he remained until October 10, 1922, when he was transferred to Huron, Ohio. Although his stay was quite short, all those who knew this young priest recall his name with great pleasure, and yet with a note of sadness,

for his life in the priesthood was very short. He was born in North Auburn, Ohio, on April 4, 1896. After a short stay in Huron, Ohio, he was transferred to St. Wendelin's, Fostoria, Ohio. On July 8, 1926, as he was on an outing on Lake Erie with the school children of St. Wendelin's, he drowned after having dived off a boat for a swim. Only after a long search was his body recovered and then his funeral rites were conducted in St. Wendelin's in Fostoria.

BISHOP SCHREMB'S IS TRANSFERRED TO CLEVELAND

On May 10, 1921, a cablegram from Rome announced that the Holy Father had transferred Bishop Schrembs to the Diocese of Cleveland, the See having been made vacant by the untimely death of Bishop Farrelly on February 12, 1921. In the meantime Bishop Schrembs had notified potential candidates for the pastorate of St. Joseph's and called for a canonical examination in order to make a selection, but Bishop Schrembs left it to his successor to name the new pastor.

THE MOST REVEREND SAMUEL A. STRITCH

On August 8, 1921, Monsignor Samuel A. Stritch, Chancellor of the Diocese of Nashville, Tennessee, was elected to succeed Bishop Schrembs who left for Cleveland on September 4th. On November 30, 1921, the second Bishop of Toledo was consecrated by Archbishop Moeller of Cincinnati, in the old St. Francis de Sales Cathedral in Toledo.

POPE PIUS XI ELECTED

Another year began. On January 21, 1922, Pope Benedict XV died. Cardinal Achille Ratti was elected as his successor and took the name of Pius XI. The election was on February 6th and the coronation on February 12th.

FATHER WAECHTER BECOMES PASTOR

It was just at this time, on February 10, 1922 to be exact, that Bishop Stritch notified Father Joseph R. Waechter, then pastor of St. Joseph's in Crestline, Ohio, that he had been appointed as irremovable rector of St. Joseph's, Fremont. He arrived in Fremont on Washington's Birthday.

FATHER REINECK DEPARTS

Now Father Reineck, who had administered the parish so faithfully since Father Rieken's resigna-



REVEREND JOSEPH ROMANUS WAECHTER
Rector of Saint Joseph's from February 22, 1922, to
October 19, 1936

tion, was transferred to Delaware Bend where he became pastor of St. Stephen's. After serving many parishes with distinction, Father Reineck was made irremovable rector of St. John's in Delphos, Ohio, where he is at the present time. On December 19, 1954, he was made a domestic prelate with the title of Right Reverend Monsignor.

THE NEW PASTOR

No priest of the Toledo diocese ever desired with a greater desire to become pastor of St. Joseph's in Fremont than Father Waechter; no priest ever chanted the praise of a parish like Father Waechter extolled the excellence of St. Joseph's. It is true that many a pastor secretly entertains such thoughts

but Father Waechter openly expressed such sentiments time and time again. This spirit is detected throughout the pages of the book he compiled for the 75th anniversary of the parish.

JOSEPH ROMANUS WAECHTER

Joseph Romanus Waechter was born in New Washington, Ohio, on August 9, 1876. He was graduated from St. Joseph's College, Collegeville, Indiana, on June 18, 1896, and then went to St. Mary's Seminary in Cleveland to complete his divinity studies. Father Waechter was ordained by Bishop Horstman in St. John's Cathedral, Cleveland, on May 24, 1902, and began his priestly life as an assistant in St. Joseph's church, Tiffin, Ohio, where he remained for seven years. On February 3, 1910, he was given charge of St. Nicholas parish, Berwick, where on Christmas Day, 1911, he received the welcome news from Bishop Schrembs that he had been appointed pastor of St. Joseph's church in Crestline, and here he remained for ten years when he came to Fremont where he was to spend the remainder of his years in this world.

FOUR YEAR HIGH SCHOOL

A new era now began. It was Father Waechter who in September, 1922, added a fourth year to the St. Joseph's high school course. At that time there were in all 87 pupils in the high school department, fourteen of these Seniors.

DR. CLARENCE I. KUNTZ (1885-1951)

In 1922, basketball at St. Joseph's High started in dead earnest. For the most part, the success of this sport at St. Joseph's in the early years was due to Dr. Clarence I. Kuntz, who took over the coaching post. Taking time out from the medical profession, Dr. Kuntz devoted a great deal of his time to the conditioning and coaching of the basket ball team. St. Joseph's has always been deeply grateful for the many years he gave to develop athletics in the school. A native of Tiffin, Ohio, he began the practice of medicine in Fremont and died here on May 20, 1951.

ASSISTANTS COME AND GO

Father Benedict Burger was transferred to Huron, Ohio, on October 10, 1922, and on the same day, Father Joseph Ahn, C.P.P.S., arrived as a temporary assistant, but on account of the lack of diocesan priests, remained until June 16, 1924, when the



EIGHTH GRADE IN 1924

FIRST ROW (kneeling): Donald Goebel, John Widman, Bernard Smola, George Ehrman, Linus Snyder, Urban Miller, Raymond Wolshuck, Arthur Heck.

SECOND ROW: Father Ahn, Aloysius Hoffer, Bernarde Hoffman, Jerome Smith, Louis Reineck, Sister Mary Ladislav, SND, Carl Riedy, Arnold Rusch, Norbert Gabel, Eugene Buchman, Father Waechter.

THIRD ROW: Frances Welker, Gertrude Garvin, Irma Wyss, Agnes Koch, Rosalyn Kettner, Mary Rusch, Lauretta Wammes, Irma Fischer, Helen Recktenwald.

BACK ROW: Agnes Toeppo, Hilda Mosser, Irma Hauck, Dorothy Frank, Luella Mayle, Rosella Moenich, Lillian Cushman, Helen Hauck.

newly-ordained Father John J. Vogel arrived. Father Vogel (now Right Reverend Monsignor) stayed with Father Waechter until August 14, 1926, when he was appointed assistant to the pastor of Sacred Heart church in Toledo, and the assistant there, Father Hilary Weger, came to Fremont in exchange. Having had three years experience as a teacher in Toledo Central Catholic High School, he was at once put in charge of St. Joseph's High, thus being the first priest principal of the school. It was Father Weger who in October 1929, initiated the publication of the high school paper *The Voice*, taking the name from the monthly magazine edited by his Alma Mater, St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, Maryland.

ADLER HOUSE PURCHASED

In May 1925, the Adler home on the corner of Wood and Court and the adjacent Binsack lot on Court street were purchased. The Adler house was remodelled to serve as a school house for the 1908

school was now much too small to take care of all the school children. Later this same building was used as a cafeteria and meeting rooms for various societies. A portable type school was located between this building and the Sisters' House and provided two more class rooms. The school system was beginning to experience "growing pains."

DEATH OF FATHER GERARD, O.F.M.

The memory of a First Mass was still fresh in the minds of the parishioners, ten months had not passed, when one of St. Joseph's priest-sons, Father Gerard, O.F.M., died on April 11, 1926. Born Charles Nusbaumer at Montpelier, Indiana, on September 22, 1896, he moved to Fremont with his parents in 1905, where he attended St. Joseph's school. Later joining the Franciscans, he took the name of Gerard in religion and was ordained in Cincinnati on June 21, 1925, and there less than a year later he died.

THEY WERE ONCE CALLED SEXTONS

As we reach the year 1926 in the parish story, it would be well to insert a few words about two of the older sextons. The dictionary defines "sexton" as: "A janitor of a church, also, formerly, a grave digger." It is in the older, fuller sense that the term is here used. It is said that in the very earliest years of the parish, the school teacher was at one and the same time not only the organist but also the janitor. In 1875, a full-time janitor was hired and this was Edward Schertinger (1832-1911), a Civil War veteran, a drummer with the old Light Guard Band, and he continued his duties at the church until 1901, when Fred Leite (1860-1926) took over the tasks, Mr. Leite serving until 1926. These men really earned their wages for besides cleaning the church and the several school houses, firing all the furnaces, ringing the bells for all services, and keeping things in repair, they also had to walk all the way to the cemetery to dig graves. Both of them were part of the life and the way of the congregation.

THEY CALL HER AGNES

One of the familiar personalities in the priests' house, both the old and the new, is a lady called simply "Agnes" by the children, and, for all that, by most of the parishioners. This is Miss Agnes Leite, one of the daughters of Fred Leite mentioned above. In 1922, she started helping with part-time secretarial duties at the priests' house but in 1926, Father Waechter, realizing that parochial demands were multiplying, put Miss Leite on full-time and even now she continues with her manifold services which keep her occupied as book-keeper, answerer of the telephone and door bells, information bureau, processor of requests for baptismal, marriage and death certificates, preparer of financial reports, and the like, all of which require her to spend long hours without respite.

SILVER JUBILEE OF FATHER WAECHTER

Father Waechter celebrated the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on May 26, 1927. On this same day, in the morning, Bishop Stritch confirmed a class of 242 children and adults. In the evening the congregation honored their pastor with a reception in the auditorium at which time he was presented with a substantial gift.

FATHER CHARLES LE JEUNE DIES

A message from overseas dated June 27, 1927,

brought the sad news that a priest-son of the parish, Father Charles LeJeune, C.P.P.S., had died on that day in Feldkirch, Austria. Born in Fremont on April 3, 1892, Charles LeJeune entered the Precious Blood Community on June 2, 1908, and was ordained on May 5, 1921. Seeing the teaching possibilities of his brilliant mind, his superiors sent him to Rome to pursue postgraduate studies, and once in the Eternal City he at once spent himself in the pursuit of the special studies there provided in the fields of Sacred Scriptures and Oriental languages. Living conditions, change of diet, fatigue from too many hours devoted to study, all these quickly wasted him when he contracted tuberculosis. Reluctantly he left Rome and went to the Precious Blood House in Feldkirch, Austria, where in the clear mountain air he hoped to regain his health and vigor. But this was to no avail and after a long and lingering illness he died on June 27, 1927. He was buried close to the side of the picturesque mountain church of St. Corneli, three miles from Feldkirch and close to the border of the Principality of Liechtenstein.

FATHER FRANCIS SCHAEFER (1900-1945)

On June 16, 1928, Father Francis Schaefer, who had been ordained on June 2nd, was appointed as second assistant at St. Joseph's, in answer to a long-cherished hope of both the clergy and laity. In September 1930, upon the departure of Father Weger, he became the second principal of St. Joseph's High, and remained in Fremont until September 1934, when he was appointed chaplain of Mercy Hospital in Toledo. Francis Schaefer was born in Toledo, Ohio, on April 6, 1900, and was baptized in Sts. Peter and Paul church there. Although his jovial manner belied the fact, he was in very poor health for many years. Following his services at Mercy Hospital he was appointed pastor of St. Patrick's church in Bryan, Ohio, in 1936, and remained there until his untimely death on November 9, 1945. The memory of this gentle and genial man of God will long be cherished.

BISHOP STRITCH MOVED TO MILWAUKEE

August 31, 1930, brought the unhappy news that Bishop Stritch had received an appointment from the Holy Father transferring him to the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He was enthroned in Milwaukee by Cardinal Mundelein of Chicago on November 18th. Samuel A. Stritch was born in

Nashville, Tennessee, on August 17, 1887. He was ordained at the North American College in Rome on May 21, 1910. He was Bishop of Toledo from 1921 to 1930; Archbishop of Milwaukee from 1930 to 1939; and was transferred to the Archbishopric of Chicago on December 27, 1939. He was created Cardinal on February 18, 1946. His first visit to Fremont was on May 7, 1922, when he confirmed a large class. He is without a doubt the only one who ever became a Cardinal to have visited Fremont. Early in 1958, he was named Pro-Prefect of the Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith in Rome, the first American prelate to serve as a Cardinal of the Roman Curia. Here we had the happy combination of a model priest and the southern gentleman; a man who loved his priests, and one loved by his priests. His departure from our diocese was deeply lamented.

But much greater grief was experienced by all when Cardinal Stritch, having reported in Rome for his new duties, died after a short illness on May 26, 1958.

A CHRISTMAS CONFLAGRATION AVERTED

The second High Mass for Christmas 1930, started promptly at 10 o'clock in the morning. As usual at the "Sanctus," the long line of altar boys, vested in red cassocks, entered the sanctuary with the lighted processional torches. Just after the consecration of the Mass, one of the boys, Kenneth Fey, who was kneeling before the Christmas Crib, and as would happen, at the very middle, fainted. His torch fell forward into the Crib and at once the straw on the floor of the manger scene caught fire. It was only the quick thinking of Alfons Recktenwald that prevented a major conflagration. Removing his overcoat as he rushed from his pew, he ran to the Crib and both smothered and beat out the flames. The rest of the congregation was dumbfounded; only after the services were concluded did they realize what a major catastrophe could have taken place had it not been for the quick action of Mr. Recktenwald. In a few more seconds the whole Crib setting would have gone up in flames and sure panic would have resulted. As it was, the entire damage amounted to only a little more than a hundred dollars, for the figures of the Infant, the Blessed Mother and St. Joseph were badly damaged, and the overcoat was a total loss. Fortunately Father Horn was then

stationed at St. Mary's in Tiffin and Father Waechter phoned him at once. Early the next day the statues were repaired and repainted. All the straw was removed from the scene and sheet-moss put in its place. Early on the afternoon of December 26th Father Horn had repaired all the damage and the Crib was again ready for visits. This was the most serious fire in the new St. Joseph's.

TOLEDO NATIVE ANNOUNCED AS NEW BISHOP

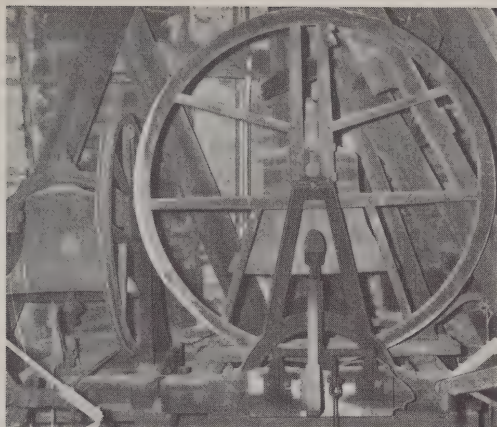
April 22, 1931, brought the tidings that the Holy Father had elected the third Bishop of Toledo and that the choice had fallen upon one of Toledo's own priests, the Rev. Karl J. Alter, who for many years had been director of the Toledo Catholic Charities. The solemn consecration of the new Bishop took place in the old St. Francis de Sales Cathedral in Toledo, on Wednesday, June 17, 1931, with the Most Reverend John T. McNicholas, Archbishop of Cincinnati as consecrating prelate. Bishop Alter was born in Toledo on August 18, 1885.

REJOICING TEMPERED BY UNEASINESS

The solemn procession of bishops and priests was just entering the old Toledo cathedral for the consecration of Bishop Alter on the 17th day of June, 1931, when the closing of the first five of Toledo's banks was loudly heralded by the newsboys. Uneasy was the vast throng throughout the long consecration ceremony, and there is no doubt at all that the principal meditation of the priests assembled was based on the financial plight of their individual parishes; this was the beginning of a great depression. As a matter of fact, 1928 was already a difficult year, and there were financial panics in October and in November 1929. In January 1930, Father Waechter recorded: "In spite of all, people have been generous in their support of the church and school." Father Waechter had great executive ability and through all the trying times of the depression he kept the parish practically out of debt.

STATUE OF SAINT THERESA DONATED

From the day of her canonization in 1925, devotion to St. Theresa of Lisieux, the "Little Flower" increased rapidly. It was about 1930, when Miss Lavina Busold donated a beautiful statue of this Saint to the church.



Some of the bells in the St. Joseph's tower.

BELLS MOVED FROM OLD CHURCH

From the time they were procured, the four bells of St. Joseph's hung in the tower of the old church. In 1931, Father Waechter had the tower of the new church inspected and found it was far more safe to house the bells here than in the old tower. So it was that in June 1931, the bells were moved from their old position to their present place, an undertaking which took only a few days and which cost only \$284.

FATHER WAECHTER GOES TO EUROPE

It is the fond hope of every priest to make at least one trip to Europe during his lifetime, especially to pay homage to the Holy Father. In the Summer of 1932, this hope was fulfilled for Father Waechter. He especially desired to make the journey at this time on account of the international Eucharistic Congress which was being held in Dublin, Ireland, in June. In Rome he procured the Papal Blessing for the parish on the occasion of its 75th anniversary which was actually on December 8, 1932.

In January 1933, Father Marcus Vogel who had been an assistant since September 1930, was transferred to St. Peter's in Mansfield, Ohio, and his place was taken by Father Alphonse A. Hoffman. During this year marble steps took the place of the wooden ones which for many many years ascended to the high altar, steps which were always carpeted in red. The new marble steps as well as the marble

predella were the gift of Mr. and Mrs. John Slope. At this same time the sanctuary was enlarged and the communion railing was extended at both ends in front of the side altars.

CELEBRATION OF THE DIAMOND JUBILEE

Almost five months after the historical date, the 75th anniversary of the founding of the parish was celebrated on May 7, 1933, on the Feast of the Patronage of St. Joseph, with Bishop Alter as the celebrant of the Pontifical High Mass. The preacher for the day was the saintly Franciscan, Father Daniel Linfert of Cincinnati. At the conclusion of the Mass, the Papal Blessing was imparted and after this Bishop Alter added his own blessing and felicitations. Unfortunately no photographs record the events of this important day, though for the occasion Father Waechter had written a history of the parish which was called: "A Souvenir of the Diamond Jubilee of St. Joseph's Parish, Fremont, Ohio." At the same time the pastor inserted a note in the parish records which promised within a few years "a newer, larger and better history," but he did not live to bring this promise to a realization.

FATHER CARL SCHEIB ARRIVES

In September 1934, Father Francis Schaefer was succeeded by Father Carl W. Scheib who was at once appointed principal of St. Joseph's High School. Father Waechter's health was now rapidly deteriorating and he was forced to spend four months in St. Vincent's hospital, Toledo, undergoing treatments.

DEAD FACES GET ANIMATION

From the time St. Joseph's steeple was completed, four faces prepared for the moving hands of a clock, stared motionless in all four directions, and this for want of the needed mechanism. Now came an opportunity to procure the works for a clock. Old St. Mary's church which stood on Cherry street in Toledo, was being razed, and the clock mechanism there was no longer needed. Many were the requests for this clock which had been donated to the church in memory of John B. Streicher in October, 1909, and which had cost \$1,800. But John Horn acted quickly and at once entered into direct negotiations with the original donors. Negotiations went on for weeks but the final decision had

to come from Bishop Alter who at the time was on a European visit, his first "ad limina" visit, having left Toledo in August, 1934. As soon as he returned it was learned that St. Joseph's could purchase the clock.

LOUIS J. MAYLE OFFERS TO DONATE THE CLOCK

In the meantime a donor was found, Louis J. Mayle, who offered to pay any and all costs of both the purchase and the installation of the clock. A third, and very necessary party, in the negotiations, was Jerome P. Smith, who was to undertake the technical aspects of removing the clock from the tower in Toledo and then install it at St. Joseph's. Early on the morning of November 8, 1934, the trio went to Toledo to begin their work. That Thursday morning after it had rung out the half hour at 8:30, John Horn stopped the clock. The work of dismantling progressed so rapidly that on that

very night a truck loaned by Louis Basch transported the huge and ponderous mechanism to Fremont. Working in the cold tower for nearly a month and a half, Mr. Smith completed the installation by the middle of December. Christmas Eve 1934, Mr. Mayle stood by in the tower and exactly at midnight he started the clock. Since that time Jerome P. Smith has faithfully kept the clock in perfect running order.

FULL BLOCK FINALLY ACQUIRED

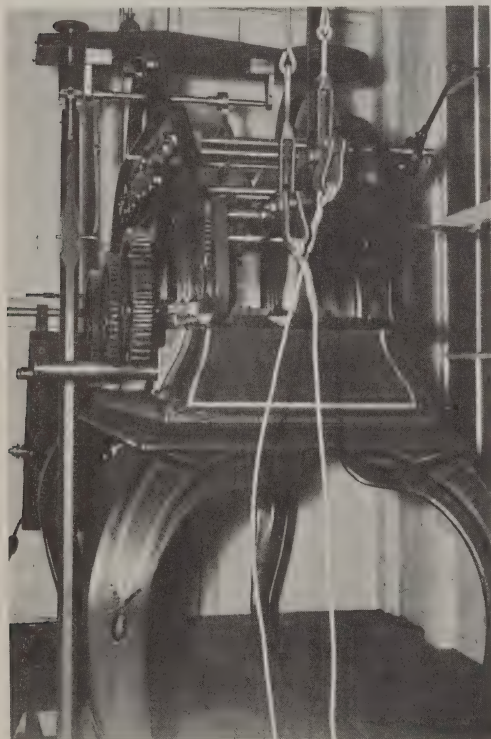
For some few years only one property on the square between Croghan and Court streets did not belong to the parish. On October 26, 1935, inlot 181 on Wood street formerly owned by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hoff was deeded to the Bishop of Toledo. For many years there was an old barn in the rear of this property, an eyesore which was a constant source of displeasure to the good Sisters, so much so that many a pupil at St. Joseph's threatened to burn it down to do the Sisters a favor. Now the barn was torn down and there were no more threats of arson. The space provided a few more square yards of playground.

FOOTBALL INTRODUCED

The extra playground space was really needed at this time for in 1935 football was started in St. Joseph's High School. Father Carl Scheib was instrumental in getting the sport started and he had the able assistance of Father Alphonse Hoffman. Both of these assistants lent moral support, but there could have been no team that Autumn of 1935 had it not been for Bernarde J. Hoffman, better known simply as "Beans" who was the first coach and another Fremont who deserves high praise, John Titsworth, his able assistant. Mr. Titsworth assisted on a voluntary basis not only this season but many, many thereafter, a service always deeply appreciated. Only six games were played the first year with a record of three wins, one tie, and two losses. Although his coaching days are now ancient history, Mr. Hoffman still retains his interest in St. Joseph's athletics.

REDECORATION

One of the principal projects for 1936 was the redecoration of the interior of the church and the installation of a new lighting system. The superb fresco work was done by the Dr. Oidtman Studios of New York City. The large oil paintings high



This is the mechanism for the clock in the St. Joseph's tower.

above the side altars were restored and at the same time extended further down so as to fit in with the redecorating and the style of architecture.

DEATH OF FATHER ADAM KELLER, S.J.

On March 9, 1936, Father Adam Keller of the Society of Jesus, a science teacher at St. Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio, died. Father Keller a priest-son of the parish was born in Fremont on August 1, 1890, and was ordained on June 27, 1928.

SIXTY YEARS AS ORGANIST

On September 24, 1936, Prof. Aloysius Menkhaus completed 60 years as organist at St. Joseph's.

DEATH OF FATHER JOSEPH WAECHTER

The redecoration of the church in which Father Waechter had taken such an intense interest was scarcely completed when after a long and lingering illness, he was called to his eternal reward. The tolling of the bells at 10:30 on the morning of October 19, 1936, gave out the sad tidings to the parish that their beloved pastor had died. As for the tolling of the bells, it might be well to record that up to about 1915, the church bells were tolled whenever a parishioner died, the large bell slowly counting out the age of the deceased. His funeral services at which Bishop Alter officiated were conducted on October 23rd after which he was interred in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

AS WE SAW HIM

Father Waechter's personal charity, known only to the beneficiaries in his lifetime, became a legend upon his death. He was dearly beloved by his assistants. Even when sickness had sapped his strength he would allow them to go to their homes on Sundays after the Masses and he himself would take over all parish duties including the sickcalls. Daily he could be found in his office listening to the tales of want, sorrows and distress confided to him by a devoted people. A man of deep learning, he was a prodigious reader and thus accumulated a vast library which he bequeathed to the Franciscan Seminary Library in Carey, Ohio. The parishioners deeply revere his memory.

FATHER JAMES S. ARNOLDI SUCCEEDS

Father James S. Arnoldi, then pastor of Immaculate Conception church at Ottoville, Ohio, was appointed irremovable rector of St. Joseph's on December 3, 1936, and assumed charge on December 16th.



Ordination photograph of Reverend James S. Arnoldi

BACKGROUND OF THE NEW PASTOR

Father Arnoldi brought to Fremont St. Joseph's a vast store of experience. James Stephen Arnoldi was born in Irrhausen, in that section of the Rhineland, Germany, known as the Eifel, on March 4, 1877. He was the son of Peter and Elizabeth Mueller Arnoldi, one of seven children. At the age of twelve he came to America alone and made his home with an uncle, Father Matthias Arnoldi, who at the time was pastor of St. Nicholas church in Frenchtown, Ohio. His high school, college and seminary studies were made at the Pontifical Josephinum College, then located in the heart of Columbus, Ohio. He was ordained at the Josephinum by the Most Reverend Henry Moeller, Bishop of Columbus (later Archbishop of Cincinnati), on June 11, 1903, and sang his first High Mass in St. Wendelin's in Fostoria, Ohio.

FIRST ASSIGNMENT

Father Arnoldi's first assignment was as assistant to the pastor of Sacred Heart church in Toledo, Ohio, where he served for ten years. It was while he was at this parish that he began his long career as a builder. A new church had been built for several years but Mass was being conducted in the basement; Father Arnoldi saw to it that the upper

church was completed so that divine services could be held there. The parishioners were very appreciative of his efforts in their behalf and in 1912 collected funds to finance a trip to Europe. This was Father Arnoldi's most eventful trip to Europe for on this occasion he had an audience with the Holy Father who was later to become Pope St. Pius X.

BECOMES PASTOR THE HARD WAY

In 1913, Father Arnoldi was appointed by Bishop Schrembs to organize a new Toledo parish, that of St. James. He bought property on which to erect a church, rectory, school and Sisters' convent, but in the meantime conducted Sunday services in an old motion picture theater. Needless to say the parish was fully established when Father Arnoldi was transferred after a period of seven years.

PASTOR OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, OTTOVILLE

It was on October 27, 1920, that Father Arnoldi received word of his appointment as irremovable rector of Immaculate Conception church in Ottoville, Ohio. Here he established the Ottoville School District so that all the children could attend one school. In order to accomplish this he erected a new building for junior and senior high school classes.

CELEBRATES SILVER JUBILEE

While in Ottoville, Father Arnoldi celebrated the Silver Jubilee of his ordination to the Priesthood. This was in 1928. Bishop Stritch preached the sermon for this occasion. Shortly after, for the second time in his life, Father Arnoldi enjoyed a well-earned rest travelling in Europe. On his visit to Rome, he had an audience with His Holiness, Pope Pius XI.

ARRIVAL IN FREMONT

On December 16, 1936, Father Arnoldi arrived in Fremont, to be greeted by the two assistants, Father Alphonse A. Hoffman and Father Carl W. Scheib, both of whom remained with him until in 1937. Father Earl M. Schmit served here for a short while in 1936, and Father Sylvester F. Schnipke was an assistant in 1937-1938, with Father Stephen M. Hegedus serving in 1938-1939.

FATHER ARNOLDI MADE A MONSIGNOR

Father Arnoldi entered into his new assignment with all the vigor of a young man although he was almost sixty years of age when he arrived here. When the Fremont Deanery was organized in 1937,

Father Arnoldi was appointed dean of the district. When in August 1938 Bishop Alter returned from a visit to Rome, he brought with him the document from the Holy Father conferring the title of Right Reverend Monsignor on Father Arnoldi, an honor well deserved for the services rendered through the years to the Church. The investment ceremony took place in Rosary Cathedral in Toledo on September 28, 1938. The following Sunday morning, vested in his flowing purple robes, the new Monsignor sang a Solemn High Mass in his parish church, at which time Father Charles S. Comte (1891-1954) then pastor of St. Catherine of Sienna church in Toledo, preached the sermon. He was a pupil under Monsignor Arnoldi at Sacred Heart church in Toledo. In the evening the parishioners held a reception and presented a program for the Monsignor in the high school auditorium.

LARGE CRUCIFIX DONATED

The large crucifix hanging on a pillar in the front of the church, a beautiful replica of the "Christ of Limpas," dates to 1937, when it was donated by Mrs. Alphonse Schmidt in memory of her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Horn.

FATHER ALBERT C. SPRENGER

Father Albert C. Sprenger was appointed to St. Joseph's in 1938 and remained here until 1944, serving in the meantime as one of the High School principals. He was a native of Port Clinton, Ohio, later moving to Toledo, where he attended Central Catholic High, and then, having completed his theological studies was ordained May 26, 1934.

EVENTS ABROAD

Pope Pius XI died in Vatican City on February 10, 1939, and was succeeded by Cardinal Eugene Pacelli who took the name of Pius XII. His election took place on March 2nd and he was crowned on March 12, 1939. In September 1939, World War II broke out in Europe.

MORE NEW ASSISTANTS

Father Leo W. Frye came to the parish in 1939, shortly after his ordination on June 3rd and remained until in 1942. Father John Schmidt was appointed to St. Joseph's in 1940 and remained here until 1944.

CATHEDRAL IS CONSECRATED

The dedication and consecration of Rosary Cath-

edral in Toledo took place with great pomp and ceremony on October 1st and 2nd, 1940.

ORGAN ELECTRIFIED

In 1940 the church organ was electrified, that is, the former track system was discarded and an electric contact system was installed. The organ was enlarged in 1942 with the introduction of a new 3 manual console and the addition of new ranges of pipes which brought the total number to 2684. The work was done by the H. E. McKittrick Co., of Toledo.

MARBLE SANCTUARY FLOOR

A much needed improvement was undertaken in 1941 when the old tile floor in the sanctuary was taken up and marble put in its place. At the same time marble steps were installed before the communion railing. A bronze plate on the steps records that the entire improvement was donated by a family relationship: Charles N. and Mary Fisher, Albert and Mary Steinberger, Aloys and Caroline Gabel, Lewis J. and Verna Fisher, Albert H. and Frances Fisher, Sister Mary Alphonsus, S.N.D., Ida, Frank A., and Hilbert Fisher.

PEARL HARBOR AND WE ARE PLUNGED INTO WORLD WAR II

The end of 1941 brought disturbing news. On December 8, 1941, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, the 84th anniversary of the founding of St. Joseph's parish, Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, and we were at once at war with Japan and Germany. Now the United States was involved in World War II, a conflict which was to last more than four years and the results of which still casts its shadow over the entire world. The European phase of the war ended on May 8, 1945; and on August 14, 1945, President Harry S. Truman announced the unconditional surrender of Japan. This was all too quickly followed by the Korean conflict which even to this present time is unsettled. The Honor Roll preserved in the vestibule of the church counts the names of 435 men and women of the parish who served in the armed forces of the nation during this period.

PROF. MENKHAUS DIES

The congregation was saddened by the death of Prof. Aloysius Menkhaus who died at the age of 86 on May 4, 1943. For 62 years he had served as organist of St. Joseph's, starting in 1876, and going

into retirement on October 1, 1938. It is said that Prof. Menkhaus missed playing at only one wedding in St. Joseph's through all these years; and that was at his own.

LOOKING AHEAD

In 1943 Monsignor Arnoldi realized that more adequate school facilities were sorely needed, and now organized committees to begin a drive for funds. The committees set to work at once and were ready to open a campaign in July 1944, and already at the end of September \$90,000 had been raised. The actual construction was planned as a postwar project.

NEW ASSISTANTS

In 1944 Father Bertrand Shenk was appointed as an assistant at St. Joseph's and here he remained for eleven years when he was transferred to Bryan, Ohio, where he became pastor of St. Patrick's church. He was instrumental in establishing the Legion of Mary in the parish in 1954, and served as its first spiritual director. He was especially interested in convert classes and without a doubt equally occupied in developing a well-trained church choir. The St. Joseph's Credit Union was also founded by Father Shenk. Also in 1944, Father Leo Lehmkuhl was appointed to St. Joseph's and remained until 1950. He is remembered especially for his work in the High School where he served as Principal. In 1956 he returned to Fremont to organize the new Sacred Heart parish. Other assistants assigned to St. Joseph's at this period were Father Kenneth C. Moore who served in 1946 and 1947 and Father Louis Huffman who was here from 1947 to 1949.

ST. JOSEPH'S BOOSTERS' CLUB

Without outside support it is almost impossible to have a successful athletic department in a high school, and St. Joseph's was no exception. Especially after the introduction of football the lack of funds was sorely felt. Already in 1944 some effort was exerted to organize a Boosters' Club which would not only try to get more spirit behind the teams but also try to put the athletic program on a sounder financial footing. The St. Joseph's Boosters' Club got under way in the Fall of 1945 with its two principal advocates acting as president and secretary, the former being Francis Wurzel, the latter, Ambrose Gabel.



GROWING PAINS CAUSE A MONSIGNOR'S HEADACHE

This picture was taken from the steeple of St. Joseph's church on June 27, 1949. In the foreground, the roof of the 1908 school, and to the right, that of the old Rectory. In the rear to the left, the Adler home, in the middle, the Portable School, and to the right, the Sisters' House.



The Portable School in June 1949. All available buildings could no longer take care of the ever-growing student body. To the right, the old Janitor's House, which in 1949 was utilized as a second residence for the Sisters.



The Sisters' House, built in 1909, was moved from its original site on Clover street to the corner of Clover and Court streets in 1949. The front part of the building presents the same appearance as it did in 1909; the large addition to the rear was completed in 1950. The Convent now has accommodations for thirty Sisters.

"NAME" SPEAKERS

The first of the many successful banquets honoring the athletes and especially letter-men took place in the Moose Temple banquet hall in the Spring of 1946. Time did not permit the procurement of a "name" speaker for this occasion, so Father Aloysius Horn was called upon to act as Master of Ceremonies and he filled in for the first of the dinners. The event was quite successful and so to insure large crowds for the annual affair it was decided to have positive drawing cards by way of top rated "name" speakers. As for this plan, at first it appeared that the Boosters' Club should not take the financial risk the plan entailed, so Harold Gabel and Ted Bintz volunteered to underwrite the project. With such a guarantee the project could not fail, and so it was that throughout the years such outstanding men as Jim Crowley, Moose Krause, Elmer Layden, Bob Williams, Terry Brennan, Biggie Munn, Joe E. Brown, Otto Graham, Forest Evashevski and Frank Lane have appeared as the featured speakers at these annual athletic banquets, every one of which has been attended by a capacity crowd.

One of the proudest moments in the life of Monsignor Arnoldi was when on September 19, 1949, he turned over the first shovel-full of dirt which marked the start of the construction of the new High School.





St. Joseph's High School Band in 1954

PROPERTY PURCHASED FOR EXPANSION

Anticipating the needs of the near future, Monsignor Arnoldi purchased the property on the south side of Croghan street to the east of the older church property. This was a strip of land 60 feet wide known as the Heffner property which was procured on May 10, 1949.

SISTERS' CONVENT MOVED AND ENLARGED

During the Summer of 1949, the brick Sisters' convent, built in 1909 and providing living quarters for twelve Sisters, was moved to the corner of Court and Clover streets and enlarged to accommodate thirty Sisters. The residence was moved to provide the space needed for the next building project.

A SHOVEL IS TURNED; A NEW SCHOOL IS STARTED

One of the very important events in Monsignor Arnoldi's life, one for which he waited for a long time, took place on September 19, 1949, when he turned over the first shovel of dirt which marked the start of the construction of a new St. Joseph's High School building. This was only the first wing of the new school and this was completed in the Fall of 1950. The two projects now finished cost \$500,000.

MORE NEW ASSISTANTS

The year 1950 brought Father William Friemoth as an assistant. Ordained in 1933, he came here with a vast store of experience as an educator and was made High School principal. In 1954 he became pastor of St. Patrick's church at Providence (Grand Rapids), Ohio. Also in 1950, Father John Ollivier was appointed to St. Joseph's shortly after his ordination and he remained here for one year.

THE MOST REVEREND GEORGE J. REHRING, FOURTH BISHOP OF TOLEDO

The Most Reverend Karl J. Alter was promoted Archbishop of Cincinnati on June 14, 1950. The Most Reverend George J. Rehring, Auxiliary Bishop of Cincinnati, was appointed Bishop of Toledo on July 18, 1950. Bishop Rehring confirmed a large class at St. Joseph's on May 20, 1951, and then returned on June 24th to bless the first wing of the new High School and the remodelled Sisters' convent.

SCHOOL BAND ORGANIZED

At various times the school had musical organizations and several times an orchestra of some promise such as in 1918, 1925 and 1933, but talent came and went about the same way as competent teachers and directors, so it was with some fear and trepidation that the proposal of the organization

of a band was received in the Spring of 1951. Nevertheless a start was made with Prof. Charles G. Wiederhold (1879-1955), a professional musician and a band leader of many years experience, selected as the first director. One hundred and twenty-five pupils signed up to practice through the Summer months of 1951 but of these only thirty persevered, and most of these were grade-school youngsters. Practices went on and in January 1952, the band members received their first uniforms. The first year was a very difficult one, for, long before the band was properly trained in the rendition of music and drill formations, the Professor had them appear in public and the organization was utterly unprepared. This caused the group to undergo some ridicule but the band played on! At first the band was supported by the Holy Name Society, but later was included in the St. Joseph's Booster Club promotions. In 1954, Prof. Wiederhold retired and Mr. John B. Kennedy took over the direction. At the present time Mr. Kennedy has not only a splendid band but also a very excellent dance orchestra. A great deal of credit must be given to the band members for they devote much after-school time for their practice sessions. Their colorful uniforms and tuneful renditions have been a great asset at parish festivals and especially at football games.

FATHER EARL LOEFFLER ARRIVES

The Summer of 1951 saw the arrival of Father Earl Loeffler, who arrived at St. Joseph's shortly after his ordination which took place on May 19, 1951. Young and energetic, interested in youth activities, he has been of great assistance to Monsignor Arnoldi and a valuable asset to the parish. It was through his efforts that the Christian Family Movement was introduced into the parish in 1953.

FAITHFUL REPORTER OF PARISH EVENTS DIES

On April 1, 1952, Miss Fannie Niebling, a parishioner, died. She never divulged her age, so it will not be recorded here. A reporter of Fremont community news, especially social events, for more than fifty years until her retirement in November 1947, Miss Niebling had written up all the important parish events over that whole period. In the days when even sermons were published in the newspapers, she had a place in the first pew of the church, right under the shadow of the pulpit,

and there she made her notes. She first started as a typesetter in 1890, but with the introduction of the first linotype machine in Fremont in 1905, she devoted herself exclusively to news reporting. A devout member of the parish, she prided herself in the full coverage she gave in reporting parish events, but took particular pride in writing up the First Masses of the priest-sons of St. Joseph's from Father Louis Mayle in 1910 to Father Roman Weltin, S.J., in 1947.

ORIGINAL BRILLIANCE RESTORED

In the Summer of 1952, the walls of the interior of the church were washed down by a firm specializing in this work and once again was revealed the original brilliance of the painted decorations. The gold-leaf in the apse had tarnished and it was thought best to repaint this part of the church. This was now done in a shade of light blue to which stars of gold leaf were applied. In January 1953, Monsignor Arnoldi announced to his parishioners that all building debts as well as the costs for all the recent renovations in the church had been liquidated.

FIFTY YEARS IN THE PRIESTHOOD

1953 was an important year for Monsignor Arnoldi and for the parish for in June he celebrated his Golden Sacerdotal Jubilee, the completion of fifty years in the Priesthood. At ten o'clock on the morning of June 2, 1953, Monsignor Arnoldi sang a Solemn High Mass of Thanksgiving in the presence of the Most Reverend George J. Rehring. This was followed by a banquet at the American Legion building for visiting clergy, Sisters, relatives and other invited guests. In the evening, the Jubilee Pageant, "The Canticle of the Golden Years," a theatrical presentation written by Sister M. Matthias, S.N.D., was given on the stage of the old auditorium. Hundreds of children from the grades and high school appeared in this tribute in word and music which rendered sincere and merited homage to Monsignor Arnoldi. But the motivating force behind the pageant was Sister M. Jeanne, S.N.D., who planned the entire production, supervised all the practice sessions, and directed the presentation backstage.

CITY JOINS PARISH IN TESTIMONIAL

On Friday night, June 4th, a joint civic and parish testimonial in honor of Monsignor Arnoldi



MONSIGNOR ARNOLDI CELEBRATES HIS GOLDEN JUBILEE

June 2, 1953

The procession returns after the celebration of the Mass of Thanksgiving. In the rear, Bishop Rehring with his Chaplains, Priest-sons of the parish, Monsignor Richard J. Gabel and the Very Reverend Theodore Mehling, C.S.C.

In the foreground, Monsignor Arnoldi, with his nephew Father Eugene Arnoldi (left) and Father Karl A. Finsel (right).

took place in the Ross High School auditorium. Werner Haslinger was program chairman and among the speakers were Mr. Oscar Stierwalt, mayor of Fremont; Mr. Dorwin Findley, president of the Board of Education; and Father Horn, who spoke in the name of the parish.

EUROPEAN TRIP

Shortly after this, the Monsignor together with his sisters Anna and Mary started on a trip to Europe where they visited among other places Fatima, Lourdes and Rome. In Rome Monsignor Arnoldi had an audience with His Holiness, Pope



The Most Reverend George J. Rehring with Monsignor Arnoldi at the banquet which honored the Monsignor on the occasion of his Golden Jubilee.

Pius XII, and so it was that on various trips he met the last three popes named Pius.

THE VILLAGE OF HIS BIRTH REJOICES

Perhaps the next greatest highlight of this trip was the visit back to the village of Irrhausen in Germany where the Monsignor was born in 1877. Sixty-four years had now passed since he as a boy of 12 had left his native village and now all the inhabitants turned out to welcome one of their own

boys who had returned to them as a Monsignor. The trip to Europe was made by air, the return by ship.

FATHER EDWARD V. LAVEY

In 1954 Father Edward V. Lavey was appointed an assistant at St. Joseph's, and during his stay in the parish was principal of the High School. It was during his time that the High School was moved to the new building facilities and it was he



In the summer of 1953, a royal welcome awaited Monsignor Arnoldi when he revisited Irrhausen, Germany, the village of his birth. With him can be seen his sisters, Mary and Anna.

who had charge of procuring the furnishings and equipment needed in the new structure. On June 14, 1957, he was transferred to St. John's parish in Lima, Ohio, and is now at St. Catherine's in Toledo.

FATHER LICHTLE ARRIVES

On June 10, 1955, Father Edward Lichtle was appointed as an assistant at St. Joseph's where he was received with open arms by Monsignor Arnoldi, for this young priest was a son from his home parish, St. Wendelin's in Fostoria, Ohio. He was bound to the Monsignor by another circumstance, the fact that he was ordained at the Josephinum, Monsignor Arnoldi's Alma Mater, on May 30, 1953, and arrived in Fremont after having spent two memorable years at St. Joseph's in Maumee, Ohio. But St. Joseph's in Fremont had a special significance for Father Lichtle for it was in this church that his parents Henry John Lichtle and Marie

Miller were united in holy marriage on November 17, 1920. Father August J. Schaefer, pastor of the bride's church, St. Mary's, Millersville, officiated. And why at St. Joseph's? The new Millersville church was just then in the process of construction and not yet ready for services. Mr. Lichtle was a member of St. Wendelin's in Fostoria. Father Lichtle was appointed principal of St. Joseph's High School for the term starting in September 1957.

BUILDING PROGRAM CONTINUED

Monsignor Arnoldi, upon his return from Europe, at once undertook the final phase of his long-range building program. Early in November 1954, the 1878 brick school which stood to the east of the church, was razed, and on November 9th the Monsignor turned over the first spade of dirt for the excavation of the basement of a new Rectory. This was completed in the Fall of 1955 at a cost of



The New Rectory was completed in September 1955.

\$200,000 providing in addition to living quarters for the clergy and a housekeepers' suite, three parish offices, St. Pius X meeting hall, the parish nursery to take care of infants during church services, and a credit union office.

NEW RECTORY OCCUPIED

In September 1955 a major exodus took place. Books, dishes, furniture, pictures, boxes, crates began to move from 708 Croghan across the street to 709, from the old to the new Rectory. It took several days to effect the change but soon there was business as usual in the new residence.

DOWN WITH THE OLD, UP WITH THE NEW

An old and familiar Croghan street scene then was within a few days completely changed and not

As the old church, later known as Educational Hall, looked shortly before it was torn down in October 1955, to make room for the new high school. It stood at the north-west corner of Croghan and Clover streets.





The old St. Joseph's Rectory. Built in 1864, additions were added from time to time. It stood at 708 Croghan street and was torn down on October 17, 1955, to make way for the new high school.



The new St. Joseph's High School which was opened in September 1956.



THE FIRST GRADUATING CLASS FROM THE NEW ST. JOSEPH'S HIGH SCHOOL
JUNE 1957

FRONT ROW: Doris Lilley, Judy McDermott, Susan Szymanowski, Ruth Recktenwald, Ruth Mayle, Donna Hauck, Judy Yingling, Ruth Wammes, Msgr. J. S. Arnoldi, Rev. Edward V. Lavey, Jacqueline Bower, Susan Widman, Carolyn Spieldenner, Helen Shoch, Melba Wasserman, Joyce Collier, Roseanne Feighner, Judy Burns,
SECOND ROW: Rev. Edward J. Lichtle, Marcia Miller, Dorothea Hoffman, Rosaline Zittle, Mary Ann Haslinger, Mary Ellen Sloma, Clara Omler, Patricia Kupka, Judy Klinck, Elaine Smith, Sharon Smith Roberta Hoffman, Jeanne Dohanos, Virginia Rendon, Emma Gabel, Shirley Szakovits, Karen Cole, Rev. Earl A. Loeffler,
THIRD ROW: Wallace Ronski, Ken Barbour, James Lehmann, Ken Mehling, Joe Lauer, John Foos, Phil Alzinger, Don Stoltz, Michael O'Conner, Anthony Meyer, Phil Johnston, Ed Nofz, Tom Wurzel, Larry Decker, Gene Beier, Jim Steinbauer,
FOURTH ROW: Gary Chudzinski, Denis O'Shaughnessey, John M. Foos, Anthony Denman, Thomas Hofert, Terrence Mosser, Carroll Darr, William Jay, Joseph Dohanos, James Bruggeman, Thomas Kunkle, George Widman, Louis Mayle, Gasper Hinojosa, Louis Foos.

without nostalgia and even some tears in the eyes of the older parishioners; on October 17, 1955, the old Rectory was razed and then the workers began to tear down the old church. When the large stone marker above the main entrance was removed it was discovered that there were no documents in it; there had been no real cornerstone in the old building which had stood for 98 years.

THE NEW HIGH SCHOOL

With the old buildings out of the way, work was at once begun on the impressive modern high school building at the corner of Croghan and Clover streets which was completed in the Fall of 1956. Equipped with every facility demanded by present-day educational standards, the completed new ad-

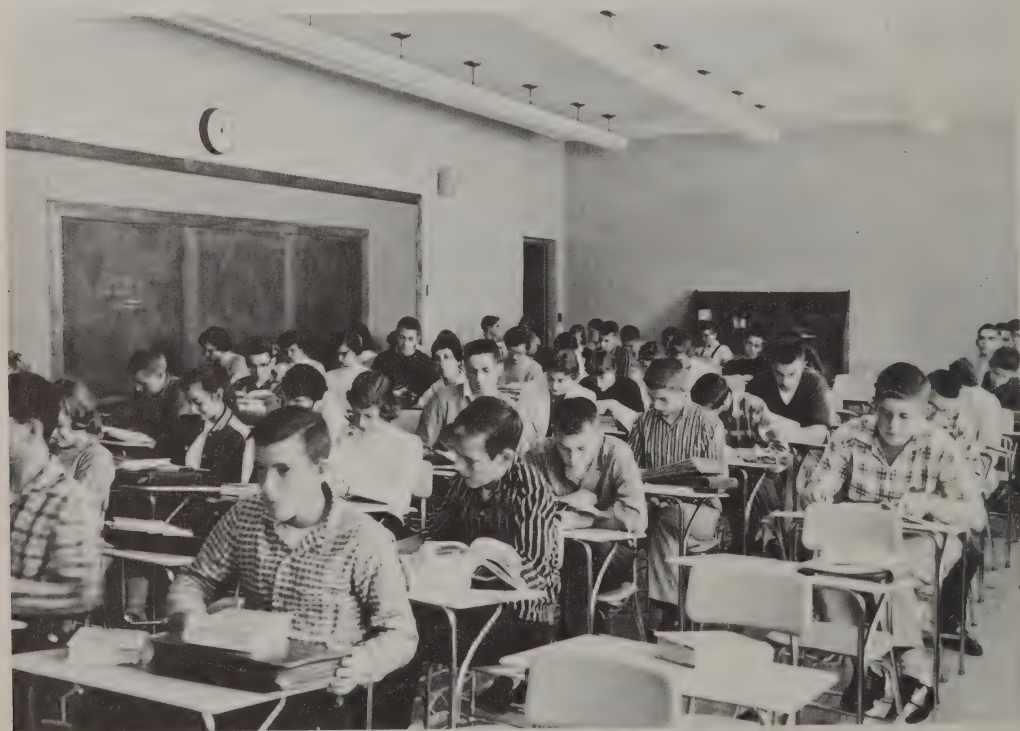
dition cost \$900,000. The new High School opened its doors on September 24, 1956, with Father Edward V. Lavey, the Principal, wondering when some of the furnishings he had ordered would arrive, but after about a week in the new facilities, everything was back to normal. Bishop Rehring blessed the new school on Sunday afternoon, November 16, 1956, at which time he also blessed the new Rectory.

FATHER ANTHONY MEYER DIES

A priest-son of the parish and since 1953 pastor of Assumption parish, Reed, Father Anthony Meyer, c. pp. s., died on July 9, 1956. After funeral services in the church at Reed on July 11th, he was buried in the cemetery at St. Charles Seminary,



First Mass in the new Sacred Heart of Jesus Church was sung on Christmas Day 1957. The ultra-modern school is seen to the right.



A class room in the new St. Joseph's High School.

Carthagen, Ohio. Born May 25, 1894, in Riley township, Sandusky county, Father Meyer entered the Congregation of the Most Precious Blood in 1907 and was ordained May 5, 1921. He offered his first Solemn High Mass in St. Joseph's and returned here for his Silver Jubilee celebration in 1946.

A NEW PARISH ESTABLISHED

Plans were drawn up during the Summer of 1957 for a church and school building to be erected by the new Sacred Heart of Jesus parish in East Fremont. Father Leo A. Lehmkuhl, who had been an assistant at St. Joseph's from 1944 to 1950, was again appointed as assistant to the same parish on June 8, 1956, with the assignment of organizing a new parish to serve the Catholics of Fremont who lived on the east side of the Sandusky river. The new parish, to be dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, was canonically erected September 8, 1956. Sunday Masses began on September 30, 1956, at the National Guard Armory on East State street. The first Mass was said in the new church on Christmas Day, 1957, just a hundred years after the founding of St. Joseph's parish.

LAST ASSISTANT WITHIN THE CENTURY ARRIVES

The nineteenth assistant to serve under Monsignor Arnoldi and the last of the St. Joseph's assistants in its first hundred years was Father Raymond F. Sheperd who was ordained on May 25, 1957, and came here on his first assignment soon after his First Mass.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

St. Joseph's was getting ready to light another birthday candle and this one would be the hundredth. The actual date should have been December 8th, but owing to the opening of the basketball season on the home floor on that date and since the new auditorium was needed for practice at this period, the three day celebration to mark the centennial was set ahead to November 17th, 18th, and 19th. Several other circumstances, including practices for a proposed pageant, entered also into the change to an earlier celebration. The principal formal solemnization of the centennial observance was, of course, religious and this was the celebration of a Pontifical High Mass with the Most Reverend George J. Rehring as celebrant on Sunday, Novem-

ber 17th, with the ceremonies starting at 11 a.m. One hundred candles, one for each year, burned on the high altar and even the large bouquets were crowned with large sparkling numerals cut out to form a "100." The papal colors, gold and ivory, and the national colors, red, white and blue, were hung pendant form on the pillars of the church. School children, Mass servers, Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus and visiting clergy formed an impressive procession to and from the church.

MONSIGNOR GABEL PREACHES

The sermon for this grand occasion was preached by a priest-son of the parish, a descendant of one of the founders, the Right Reverend Monsignor Richard J. Gabel, now pastor of St. Joseph's church in Tiffin. No better selection could have been made, for Monsignor Gabel has always been imbued with the spirit of his native parish. For this day Monsignor Gabel had prepared words based on all his knowledge of and love for this familiar scene of his early days. The sermon was not long, but in it the pioneers, the various societies, the priests and Sisters who came from the parish received due credit and praise, and above all he summed up the countless blessings which the congregation had received and for which it owed praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God.

PULPIT PASSES SMALL SERVERS SIGH RELIEF

Monsignor Gabel preached from a lectern in the sanctuary and not from the old, familiar pulpit which had been removed from the church only the previous week, a pulpit which was huge and cumbersome. Above it was a beautifully shaped sounding board on which was painted a dove, the symbol for the Holy Spirit. When not in use the pulpit was kept to one side of the church and had to be pushed to a position before the gates of the Communion railing for sermons. Younger acolytes usually served the earlier Sunday Masses and it was a real problem for them to move this heavy church furnishing especially in the days of the uneven wooden steps. Often they wore rubber overshoes to get good traction but not rarely the pulpit would be moved only a few feet when it would budge no further. Blessings on the kindly men and thoughtful who would leave their pew and place a strong arm on the pulpit to give it a fresh start. A loud-speaking system was first introduced in 1941. With the sta-



THE LINK OF A HUNDRED YEARS

The Consecration during the Centennial Mass, Sunday, November 17, 1957, with the Most Reverend George J. Rehring as celebrant.

The procession returning after the Centennial Mass, November 17, 1957





The final scene in the Centennial Pageant.

tionary lectern, microphones and loud-speakers, the smaller servers will no longer have to cope with this weighty problem.

THE CENTENNIAL PAGEANT

For weeks a pageant had been in preparation, a presentation of dramatic episodes from the history of St. Joseph's parish through the hundred years of its existence. This great undertaking in which some 600 school children took part took the name: "The Seed Unfolded" and was written and produced by Sister Mary Carolanne, S.N.D., one of the high school teachers. The sewing committee for the preparation of the costumes and robes was made up of a group of fifty ladies of the parish.

THE CURTAINS OPEN AND THEN AGAIN CLOSE

The first performance was scheduled for Sunday afternoon, November 17th, and this had been arranged so that not only the visiting clergy and Sisters who had attended the Centennial Mass in the morning would have an opportunity of viewing the spectacle, but especially to give the Most Reverend Bishop this opportunity. At the very last moment it was learned that Bishop Rehring could not remain for the performance but would stay to see the opening ensemble and then say a few words. This produced general consternation backstage and the Sister director was frantic. The Bishop entered the new auditorium, the band played the opening number and the curtains parted revealing the actors of the first episode who stood motionless on the

stage for what seemed an eternity, and then the Bishop, realizing what was happening, rose at his place in the hall, addressed a few words to those assembled and then departed. A few minutes passed and then again the curtains opened and the pageant was for the first time presented to a very appreciative audience.

HIGHLIGHTS

The highlights of the presentation were the Prologue, the scene of the pioneer founders, and the final tableau, but the most moving, the most beautiful, was the scene of the shepherds and the Angels commemorating Doctor Bauer's grand celebration of Christmas in the period from 1895 to 1906. Worthy of special commendation were the two narrators, James House and Mary Luise Scherer, who throughout the nearly two hours of the performance revealed by word what the eye would see. The costumes, the simplicity of the stage settings, the beautiful lighting effects, all contributed to the success of the presentation. Capacity crowds viewed the spectacle on the nights of November 18th and 19th, and then when the curtains closed for the last time, the children went back to their regular study schedule and only the memory of a splendid presentation remained. It is to be regretted that the hours and hours of work which Sister Mary Carolanne spent in preparing the script for the pageant should be rewarded only by attentive ears at three performances, for it is really in the careful reading of the masterful composition that one realizes its beauty, worth and full meaning.

TWO MORE DAYS

Monday, November 18th, was set aside as a special home-coming day for the priest-sons and former assistants of the parish. Monsignor Arnoldi was celebrant at a Solemn High Mass during which a priest-son, Father Bernard Smith, for almost twenty-five years an assistant at the Toledo Cathedral, preached an impressive sermon. On Tuesday, November 19th, a Solemn Requiem High Mass, at which the Monsignor again officiated, was offered for the repose of the souls of all the parishioners who had died through the hundred years.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS COMPLETED

Three weeks remained to round out the first one hundred years, weeks which passed uneventfully. The last Nuptial High Mass was celebrated by Monsignor Arnoldi on November 23, 1957, the marriage being that of Theodore R. Singleton and Miss Cecelia M. Link. The last funeral rites of the century were those of Alphonsus S. Darr, on November 28, 1957, and again Monsignor Arnoldi officiated.

DECEMBER 8, 1957

The actual 100th anniversary of the parish was on December 8, 1957, and on this day Monsignor Arnoldi baptized the first infant in the new century, Michael James Spriggs, son of Joseph P. Spriggs and Jeanette Orth Spriggs.

THIS FROZEN MOMENT

Here we stop the clock to photograph an instant of time so that a hundred years from now parishioners will be able to gain some idea of some of the parish organizations as they existed in 1957. The oldest parishioner was Mrs. David Dieffenbach who was 98. She came to the parish from Germany as a child of 5. The oldest man was Albert Gabel, 91, a retired farmer who was a grandson of Jacob Gabel, a charter member of the parish. Another old parishioner was Charles Babione who at 90 was the oldest member to attend the centennial services.

IMPRESSIVE RECORDS

The official records of the parish show that in the century there were 8,694 baptisms, 2,538 weddings and 2,908 deaths.

SAINT JOSEPH'S SCHOOL SYSTEM

At this time there were 412 students enrolled in the high school department and 951 in the grades. The following were on the high school faculty: Rev. Edward Lichtle, Principal; Rev. Earl Loeffler, Rev. Raymond Shepherd, and Rev. Jerome Swiat-ecki, who earlier in the year had been appointed Pastor of St. Casimir's parish. The other members were, Sister Mary Adolph, Sister Mary Bernardus, Sister Mary Carolanne, Sister Mary Casildis, Sister Mary Joan, Sister Mary Lillian, Sister Mary Roberta, and Sister Mary Virgie, all members of the Notre Dame Order, and the following lay teachers: Mrs. Thomas Leite, Mrs. Walter Sneider, Mr. Edward Dorobek, Mr. John Kennedy, Mr. Joseph Kuzma, Mr. Edward Nofz, Mr. Robert Smith and Mr. Walter Sneider. Mrs. Robert Mehling was office secretary. The following Notre Dame Sisters served in the grades: Sister Mary Andrenita, Sister Mary Andrew, Sister Mary Angelora, Sister Mary Chrysostom, Sister Mary Clement, Sister Mary Dennis Ann, Sister Mary Dominic, Sister Mary Francel, Sister Mary Laurietta, Sister Mary Margaret Rose, Sister Mary Lee Ann, Sister Mary Paulette, Sister Mary St. Paul, and Sister Mary Thomasita. Taking care of the Sisters' convent was Sister Mary Melvin. The grade school lay teachers were: Mrs. Paul Dummering, Mrs. Mildred Foster, Miss Diane Haaser, Mrs. Carl Recktenwald and Miss Sharon Robenault.

THE COUNCILMEN

The Councilmen at this time were: Ray Bucher, Hilary Durnwald, Harold J. Gabel, Norbert House and Robert G. Mayle.

THE USHERS

Taken for granted, yet those who weekly receive the offerings of the faithful for the support of the parish, are the ushers. The head usher was John Horn who was appointed in 1915. The following were serving with Mr. Horn as of December 8, 1957: Joseph T. Drusback, George Schuck, Carl Toeppe, Jacob A. Swint, Raymond Wise, Vernon Swint, Jack Freeh, Glenn Kettner, John Notheis, Norman Peltier, Joe Lauer, John Kimmel, Herman Horn, Harry J. Kledzik and Rocco Veneziano. Herbert A. Horn who for many years took up the collection at the 5:30 Mass, died August 2, 1957.

THE SAINT JOSEPH PARISH
ORGANIZATIONS AS AT THE END OF 1957

The Blessed Sacrament Confraternity

President, Mrs. Jan Denman
Vice President, Mrs. Ambrose Gabel
Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Ben Rectenwald

The St. Joseph's Holy Name Society

President, Don Shiets
Vice President, William Madden
Recording Secretary, Marion Golamb
Financial Secretary, Robert Gonya
Treasurer, LeRoy Calmes

Third Order of St. Francis

Prefect, Mrs. Theodore Schwartz
Vice Prefect, Mrs. Marie Miller
Secretary, Mrs. Carl Mosser
Treasurer, Mrs. Henry Haubert
Novice Mistress, Mrs. Joseph Novitski

Rosary Society

Secretary, Mrs. Steve Halm

St. Polycarp Study Clubs

Leader, Mrs. Ivan Koebel

Mothers' Club

President, Mrs. Helen Meyers
Vice President, Mrs. John Winke
Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Cyril Haubert

Parent-Teacher Association

President, Ed Geller
Vice President, Mrs. Cletus Mosser
Secretary, Mrs. Joe Fisher
Treasurer, Mrs. Vic Celek

Boosters Club

President, Richard Maier
Vice President, Eugene Mosser
Secretary, John Ochs
Treasurer, Bill Snyder

Fremont Council of Catholic Youth

President, Margaret Swint
Vice President, Kenneth Gabel
Recording Secretary, Martha Hawk
Corresponding Secretary, Pat Haubert
Treasurer, Jim Walter
Librarian, Mary Ann Patynko

The Legion of Mary

President, Mrs. Raymond Grob
Vice President, Mrs. Mark Hoffman
Secretary, Mrs. Loren Parks
Treasurer, Mrs. Florence Fredericks

The Fremont Legion of Mary is named the Our Lady of Guadalupe Presidium. Organized in April 1954, the first Spiritual Director was Father Bertrand Shenk, and upon his departure the office was taken over by Father Earl Loeffler. The ladies, always working in pairs, call on lapsed Catholics, mixed-marriage cases, and non-Catholics who are not affiliated with any church. At least two hours of work is assigned each week. These ladies assisted with the 1954 parish census and have also assisted with the Spanish language migrant program.

THE BOY SCOUTS

The first Boy Scout Troop in Fremont was composed of Catholic boys. Organized late in 1912 it was absorbed by other troops before the movement was started in the parish. The first St. Joseph's troop was organized during the pastorate of Father Waechter, the charter being granted in February 1927. Robert J. Gabel was scoutmaster and his committee was made up of C. J. Miller, W. A. Krupp and Robert Lytle. Other scoutmasters were Herbert Kuntz, Paul Reinbolt, John Durbin, Ivan Decker, Harry Collier, Harold Kayden, Paul Weltin, Ray Anderson, Dick Bergeman, James Linn and Ted Kerosky. Scouting has not enjoyed real progress because parents are usually interested in its activities only during the period in which their children are members and then, for the most part, their enthusiasm wanes. The first Cub pack, the junior scout organization, was chartered at St. Joseph's on January 31, 1945, with Walter Sneider as first cubmaster. At this time there are 98 young boys who are Cubs.

INTER-PAROCHIAL ORGANIZATIONS

Besides the church societies there are some inter-parochial organizations which deserve mention. For the men these are the Catholic Knights of Ohio and the Knights of Columbus the members of which may be called upon at all times to help at parish affairs. A special word of commendation is due to the Fourth Degree of the Knights of Columbus whose uniformed members never fail to be present to do honor to the Bishop on his visits and who turn



The "Mixed" Church Choir at the Midwinter Social given by the Christian Mothers Society of St. Joseph's on February 12, 1912. Seated around the table from left to right are: Frances Schwartz, John Setzler, Charles Ochs, Mrs. Harry Price (now Mrs. Charles Babione), William Gabel, Sr., Father Rieken, Mrs. Zeno Mehling, Marie Giesinger (now Mrs. John Eisenman), Lavina Busold, Clara Reineck, Mamie Werich, Mrs. Mary Menkhaus, and Prof. Alois Menkhaus, Organist.

out at the first Masses of the newly ordained priests. For the women two organizations have long served here, the Catholic Ladies of Columbia and the Daughters of Isabella.

THE SAINT JOSEPH'S CHOIR

"Sing praises to the Lord, O you His faithful,
And give thanks to His holy name."

Psalms 29, verse 5

Although their voices long ago were stilled and although even their names are now for the most part forgotten, the church choirs of St. Joseph have always been a matter of great pride. Up until 1915 the parish had a mixed choir and who can forget their rendition of the "Gloria" from Mozart's "Twelfth Mass?" Up to this time at the early Mass on Sunday, the girls' choir sang. Their beautiful soprano and alto voices blended in joyous strains in praising the Lord. Obedient to the "Motu Proprio" of Pope Saint Pius X, restricting the use of female voices in the rendition of liturgical music, a strictly

male choir was developed. The part played through the years by Prof. Menkhaus as organist and choir director has already been told. Although all the choir members have always rendered excellent service, in the last fifty years three voices had distinguishing characteristics which have left an impression on the congregation, that of Theodore (Dora) Fuchs (1873-1914); of William A. Gabel Sr. (1870-1935); and of Max Gabel. The names of many of the choir members, past and present, will be found under the photographs of the choirs of various periods.

THE ORGANISTS

In the early days of the parish the school teachers served as organists, and we remember a very early one, Mr. George Held. Professor Menkhaus served from 1876 to 1938, but even in his time he was ably assisted at the children's Masses, both on Sundays and during the week, by Miss Gertrude Gabel (now Mrs. Freeh) and Miss Loyola Reineck, both pro-



THIS PICTURE OF THE CHOIR WAS TAKEN IN 1926 WHEN PROF. MENKHAUS HAD COMPLETED FIFTY YEARS AS ORGANIST.

TOP ROW: Charles Eberly, Joseph Mosser, Carl Good, John Eisenman, Carroll Good, Aloys Mosser.
 BOTTOM ROW: Max Gabel, William A. Gabel, Professor A. Menkhaus, Charles Ochs, John Setzler.



ST. JOSEPH'S CHOIR IN 1957

FIRST ROW: Wilbur Halm, Max Gabel, Walter Sneider, Louis Burkett (organist), Ambrose Gabel, Charles Herrell, William Heschel,
 SECOND ROW: Werner Young Jr., Walter Horn, Leonard Mosser, James Werner, Gerald Scheider, Robert Darr, James Freeh.
 THIRD ROW: Robert Hershey, E. Michael Fey, Norman Horn, Fredrick Otte, Joseph Durnwald, Louis Foos, Charles Missey.
 At the time of the photograph, another member, Joseph Schwinger Jr. was absent.



ST. JOSEPH'S ALTAR BOYS IN 1876

TOP ROW: Henry Ochs, Adam Werner, Joseph Tischler, Charles Ochs, William Yeager
 LOWER ROW: Anton Schmitt, Casper Hodes, Henry Tischler.



GROUP OF MASS SERVERS IN JUNE, 1914. 1878 SCHOOL IN BACKGROUND

FRONT ROW: Aloys Giesinger, Gerald Welker, Carroll Wasserman, Carroll Binsack, Maynard Ochs.
 SECOND ROW: Louis Spieldenner, Father Rieken, Father Bushkuhl, Herman Leite (ordained), Ralph Wellin.
 THIRD ROW: Robert I. Gabel, Arthur Gabel, Paul Swint, Paul Leite, Seraphin Oberhauser (ordained), Cletus Malkmus.



MASS SERVERS OF 60 YEARS AGO (1897)

SEATED: Alois Gabel, John Mohrbach, William Schwartz, Wendell Recktenwald, Zeno Mehling,
STANDING: Leo Oberhauser, Joseph Schwartz, Louis Schwartz, William Loschert, Andrew Guenther,
Charles Smola, Alphons Schmidt, Bernard Giebel.

ficient musicians. At the retirement of Professor Menkhaus in October 1938, he was succeeded by Eugene Selhorst who remained until August 1939. Then came Marvin Sauppe who was organist from August 1939 to September 1941, when Louis Burkett, a young parishioner, born in Fremont on June 1, 1920, presided at the console and served as organist until he went to the army in September 1942. Joseph Esser was organist from this time till July 1943, to be followed by Alex L. Allard (now organist in the cathedral at Erie, Pennsylvania) who was here from July 1943 to September 1944. In the meantime, from September 1944 to March 1946, Miss Mary Schwinger (now Mrs. E. M. Fey) assisted by Miss Angela Wolf, presided at the organ. In March 1946, returned from his army service, Louis Burkett re-

sumed his place at the organ and continues in this capacity to this day.

THE ACOLYTES

The name given to the highest of the four minor orders in preparation for the priesthood is "acolyte;" the office is that of assisting the priest at Mass. The name and duties have been transferred to those we usually call Mass-servers. These assistants at the altar have important functions to perform, but the performance of these duties also requires an amount of sacrifice. These boys must often rise early to serve the first Masses and they must also give freely of their time even during vacation periods. The important part they play in the spiritual life of the parish is deeply appreciated by both the clergy and the laity.



A GROUP OF SERVERS FROM THE YEAR 1957

SEATED: John Babione, Thomas Goltron, Thomas Notheis, Thomas Reineck, and Charles Missey.
STANDING (left to right): John Cole, Eugene Gonya, Thomas Zimmer, James House, Gary Holz,
Michael Ochs, Jeffery Babione, Phillip Borer.

THE CUSTODIANS OF THE ST. JOSEPH'S PROPERTIES

An important position in the physical management of the parish is that of the custodians, those who perform the duties formerly exercised by the janitors and sextons. Following Fred Leite in 1926, was George Weltin who was ably assisted by Robert Bauman who for many years was also caretaker of the cemetery. Urban Swint served in this capacity from January 1940 to August 1942, at which time William L. Jago, who is still active, took over the responsibilities. Others who have assisted in the meantime were Franklin Hawk, Henry Sutton, Emmanuel Szabo and the present capable assistant, Balbino Cisneros. The duties of the custodians are manifold, the hours long, especially since the parish plant has grown to its present proportions.

SAINT JOSEPH'S CEMETERY

The first parishioners to die were buried in what is known as the Ludwig cemetery, a little to the south of Gabel's Corners on old Route 12 and some six miles southwest of Fremont. In 1864 the present St. Joseph's cemetery was started, as already mentioned in this history, a tract of land consisting of 6 acres. From time to time additional land has been acquired so that the area now covers 21 acres. Three priests and one Sister are interred in the cemetery, Doctor Bauer, Father Waechter and Father Jerome (Harry) Zienta; and Sister Mary Imelda, S.N.D. In 1920, Mrs. Gephart Fisher donated the altar in the receiving vault in memory of her husband.



ST. JOSEPH'S CEMETERY IN 1903. UPPER LEFT: GRAVE OF SISTER MARY IMELDA, S.N.D.

ST. JOSEPH'S CEMETERY IN 1957



THE SAINT JOSEPH'S CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

In the early days the cemetery lots were sold for a very nominal sum and little did the people of that time think of the upkeep problems of the future. Yearly collections for this purpose did not provide the necessary funds. Shortly after 1933, an attempt was made to establish a perpetual care fund and by 1946 a balance of \$3,300 was on hand for this purpose. In order to increase this fund and improve the cemetery in every possible manner, the St. Joseph's Cemetery Association was formed at a meeting held on April 7, 1946, at which time John Horn was elected President. On April 24th, Charles S. Swint was elected to the office of Secretary-Treasurer and he has faithfully served in this capacity to the present time. Also very active in the Association has been Mrs. Ralph Nighswander who has served through the years on the Board of Directors. In 1950 much needed road improvements were made and a new section opened. In April 1951, Mr. Horn was succeeded by Joseph Schwinger, Sr., as President. According to the Association records, the last meeting was held on February 7, 1955. The financial status of the cemetery fund is now very sound and as for the cemetery itself it has never been in such excellent condition, due for the most part to the constant personal attention of Mr. Swint.

VALIANT WOMEN

The printed record of the parish cannot be brought to a conclusion without some mention of the many unnamed workers of the parish, for the most part valiant women, who have been content to work behind the scenes. The parish registers are filled with the names of women, both married and single, who have sacrificed for the good of the parish and for the Church in general. Who are these valiant women? They are the mothers of the priest-sons and Sister-daughters of St. Joseph's; they are the ladies who daily pray before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament for the continuance of God's blessing on the parish; they are those who hasten to heed every appeal; they are those who have "opened her hand to the needy, and stretched out her hands to the poor." Their names and deeds are recorded in letters of gold in the "Book of Life"; they do not look for the plaudits of the world, for as we read in the Proverbs:

"Favor is deceitful, and beauty is vain: the

woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised."

God bless every one of them and may they continue to be the self-effacing souls they have always desired to be.

THE MONSIGNOR: AN APPRECIATION

This, then, is the story of what was and is St. Joseph's parish, for the last twenty-one years so ably tended by its pastor and rector, Monsignor James S. Arnoldi. It is fitting that in closing we pay him high tribute. A single verse from the Psalms epitomizes his dedication to his priestly duties:

"One thing I ask of the Lord, this do I seek:
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all
the days of my life."

First and foremost in his mind is his devotion to God. Having served in the priesthood for fifty-four years he now himself acknowledges that he is growing older; nevertheless he continues to preside not only at his usual Masses but also at most of the other devotional exercises. Next must be mentioned his relationship to his assistants who during his stay in Fremont have now numbered nineteen. He has exerted a fatherly care for them and they have held him in reverence and esteem. He was known as a builder before he came to Fremont; he retained this distinction during his pastorate here.

Next in order is perhaps his keen interest in and love for the school children. Where the Monsignor is, there the children flock. Hundreds upon hundreds of them will never forget the Monsignor's "treats." His hospitality, especially as exhibited towards his brother priests, is known throughout the diocese, but here he has to stand to a side for a moment, and introduce his sisters Anna and Mary, for it is in this particular department that he has to rely upon their assistance. His sister Anna has now been his housekeeper for forty-four years, and his sister Mary has devoted thirty years of her life to this vocation. Their praises are sung in particular by all the assistants who have partaken of their painstaking ministrations.

Since 1937, Monsignor Arnoldi has been Moderator of the Diocesan Priests' Eucharistic League, a position he has filled with pride and zeal.

Added to all this we must mention his sense of justice in conducting parish, school and financial affairs. Here, then, is a man of God, one who has devoted the fifty-four years of his priesthood to

his Divine Master. He is indeed proud of his various accomplishments, and justly so, but in his deep humility he has always preferred to present his works both physical and spiritual to Almighty God and to await his reward when the Master calls.

THIS IS YOUR HISTORY

People of Saint Joseph's this is your history. May Saint Joseph, patron of the working-man, patron of our parish, pray for us. May the parishioners of the

future emulate the generosity and devotion of the faithful of the past and may they be ever ready to sacrifice for the greatest of all causes, their Faith.

"And now pray ye to the God of all, who hath done great things in all the earth, who hath increased our days from our mother's womb, and hath done with us according to his mercy. May he grant us joyfulness of heart, and that there be peace in our days"

Ecclesiasticus, Chap. 50, vs. 24, 25.



THESE SONS OF THE PARISH WERE CALLED TO SERVE AT GOD'S ALTAR

Reverend Joseph S. Widman — ordained April 8, 1892. Died December 10, 1918.

Reverend Louis J. Mayle — ordained June 4, 1910.

Reverend Herman S. Gabel — ordained December 18, 1915. Died July 26, 1934.

Reverend Charles M. LeJeune, C.P.P.S. — ordained May 5, 1921. Died June 27, 1927.

Reverend Anthony Meyer, C.P.P.S. — ordained May 5, 1921. Died July 9, 1956.

Reverend Isidore Oberhauser, now Father Vincent Mary, C.P. — ordained May 5, 1921.

Rt. Rev. Monsignor Richard J. Gabel — ordained December 22, 1923.

Reverend Gerard Nusbaumer, O.F.M. — ordained June 21, 1925. Died April 11, 1926.

Very Reverend Seraphin W. Oberhauser, C.P.P.S. — ordained May 23, 1926.

Reverend Aloysius S. Horn — ordained January 15, 1928.

Reverend Adam Keller, S.J. — ordained June 27, 1928. Died March 9, 1936.

Reverend Herman J. Leite — ordained June 10, 1933.

Reverend Bernard E. Smith — ordained June 10, 1933.

Reverend Joseph Garvin, C.S.C. — ordained June 24, 1933.

Very Reverend Theodore Mehling, C.S.C. — ordained June 24, 1933.

Reverend Carl Longanbach, C.P.P.S. — ordained May 10, 1934.

Reverend Seraphin Widman, C.P.P.S. — ordained May 10, 1934.

Reverend Roman Weltin, S.J. — ordained June 18
1947.

Reverend Urban G. Dummering, C.P.P.S. — ordained
May 24, 1951.

Reverend Gerard F. Smola, S.J. — ordained June 13,
1951.

Reverend Paul Besanceney, S.J. — ordained June
13, 1956.

Though the Parish takes just pride in such a long
list of its sons in the Priesthood, it must also take
into consideration that it is now almost twenty-five
years since it has provided a Priest for service in
our own diocese. Please pray for vocations and
foster such a vocation in the hearts of your sons.

BROTHERS

BROTHERS OF THE HOLY CROSS (Notre Dame, Indiana)

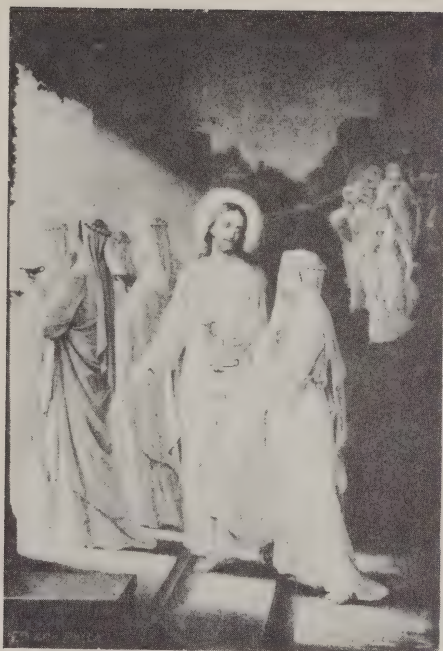
*Brother Nicholas	George Ochs
Brother Gabriel	Isidore Halm
Brother Howard Martin	Gerald Eugene Toeppe

CONGREGATION OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD Carthagenia, Ohio

Brother Anselm	Frank Giebel
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Devotion to Our Lady has always been uppermost in the parish





**THE FOLLOWING YOUNG LADIES OF THE PARISH HAVE
ENTERED THE RELIGIOUS LIFE**

SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME (Professed)

*Sister Mary Irmine	Mary Mayle	Sister Mary St. Agnes	Helen Smola
*Sister Mary Julie	Clara Zimmer	Sister Mary Gregory	Olivia Weltin
Sister Mary Magna	Rose Zimmer	Sister Mary Claranne	Elizabeth Koch
Sister Mary Ernestine	Ludwina Haslinger	Sister Mary Merele	Mildred Wolf
*Sister Mary Magdalen	Anna Haslinger	Sister Mary Dalene	Valeda Wasserman
Sister Mary Alphonsus	Ruth Fisher	Sister Mary Albertus	Leona Danca
Sister Mary Eventia	Gertrude Sneider	Sister Mary Rosarita	Mary Lucille Poorman
Sister Mary Scholastica	Hilda Bundschuh	Sister Mary Leota	Hilda Marie Sloma
Sister Mary Loyole	Clara Gabel	Sister Mary Hilbert	Luella Fisher
Sister Mary Norma	Elizabeth Ochs	Sister Mary Marcianna	Marcella Halbisen
Sister Mary Marita	Margaret Wasserman	Sister Mary Teresilla	Teresa Halm
Sister Mary Francita	Bertha Widman	Sister Mary Gilbert	Margaret Wagner
*Sister Mary Venard	Frances Widman	Sister Mary Rosalee	Rose Halm
Sister Mary Charleen	Angela Smola		

(The symbol * denotes deceased)

URSULINE SISTERS (Toledo, Ohio)

Sister Mary Celestine	Rose Meyer
Sister Mary Veronica	Wilhelmina Gottron
Sister Mary Hildegard	Lavina Rimmelspach
Sister Mary Immaculata	Leona Steinberger
Sister Mary Carmencita	Bertha Andres

SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS (Joliet, Illinois)

*Sister Mary Bertha	Caroline Spies
*Sister Mary Seraphica	Veronica Reineck
*Sister Mary Leonella	Susan Weltin

POOR HANDMAIDS OF JESUS CHRIST (Donaldson, Indiana)

*Sister Mary Cassiana	Mary Barth
Sister Mary Bathilda	Gertrude House
*Sister Mary Seraphin	Ida Horn
Sister Mary Gorgonia	Leona Wasserman
*Sister Mary Sienna	Margaret Ochs

VISITATION CONVENT (Toledo, Ohio)

*Sister Mary Magdalen	Wilhelmina Mayle
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POOR CLARES (Chicago, Illinois)

*Sister Mary Priscilla	Catherine Gabel
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FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT (Canton, Ohio)

*Mother Mary Clare	Anna Gabel
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BENEDICTINE SISTERS OF PERPETUAL ADORATION

Sister Mary Gonzaga	Bathildes Snyder
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MARY KNOLL SISTERS

Sister Mary Jude	Theresa Babione
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SISTERS OF MERCY

Sister Mary Elizabeth	Imelda Wasserman
Sister Mary Lucretia	Rita Mary Wasserman
Sister Mary Urban	Pauline Swint
Sister Mary Elvira	Margaret Ann Wasserman

DAUGHTERS OF THE HEART OF MARY

*Sister Anna Fisher	Anna Fisher
*Sister Agatha Fisher	Agatha Fisher
Sister Roselyn Wasserman	Roselyn Wasserman

SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS (Tiffin, Ohio)

Sister Mary Leocadia	Marie Omlor
Sister Mary Jacinta	Mary Omlor

ON OUR INFLUENCE OUTSIDE THE PARISH

Every vocation to the religious life means that something has gone out of the parish; it means that some of our influence and example has been transplanted to take root in some other place. At this moment the parish counts 21 priest-sons; 4 Brothers; and 54 Sisters, not counting those now studying in the Seminary nor the novices and postulants in the various Sisterhoods.

FAR-REACHING

To realize the far-reaching influence of former parishioners we need only recall that Sister Mary Jude, a Maryknoll Sister (Theresa Babione), a veteran of the Chinese mission field, is now teaching on Mauri Island, Hawaii, and Sister Roselyn, Daughter of the Heart of Mary (Roselyn Wasserman), is at present doing excellent work at a mission school in Addis-Ababa, Ethiopia. We know that all our religious are accomplishing excellent results but several stand out in their achievements.

THE RIGHT REVEREND MONSIGNOR RICHARD J. GABEL, S.T.D.

The only priest-son to have been honored with

the title of Right Reverend Monsignor is Monsignor Richard J. Gabel, born in Fremont on April 27, 1898, and at the present time pastor of St. Joseph's church, Tiffin, Ohio. His real claim to fame was in the national influence he effected through the publication of his book in 1937: "Public Funds for Church and Private Schools." He also wrote a book: "A Comparative Study of Some High School Religious Texts" in 1934. Ordained in Rome in December 1923, he received his Doctorate in Sacred Theology in 1924. Long known as a priest-educator, he was invested as a Domestic Prelate in 1954.

THE VERY REVEREND SERAPHIN W. OBERHAUSER, C.P.P.S.

Another illustrious priest from the parish is the Very Reverend Seraphin W. Oberhauser, born in Fremont on April 15, 1900, who joined the Society of the Precious Blood and was ordained in 1926. He is now Provincial of the American Province of the Society of the Precious Blood with headquarters in Dayton, Ohio. The American Province at the present time numbers 426 priests, 72 Brothers and

360 students. In the United States the Society is represented in 22 States (40 different dioceses) and cares for nearly 100 parishes. 12 priests are serving as Chaplains in the armed forces. A mission in Chile which demands occasional visitations by Father Oberhauser is presently staffed with 22 priests.

His brother, another priest from the parish, Father Isidore, is presently in Rome, having been called there in June 1956, to assist in revising the Ritual of the Passionist Order. Originally a member of the Society of the Precious Blood, many years ago he joined the Passionists and is now known as Father Vincent Mary, C.P.

THE VERY REVEREND

THEODORE J. MEHLING, C.S.C.

Theodore J. Mehling was born in Fremont on August 23, 1906. He entered the Congregation of Holy Cross at Notre Dame, Indiana, in September 1922, and was ordained on July 24, 1933. After various assignments he became Provincial Superior in 1950 and is now in the second year of a second six-year term. The Province extends from the Ohio-Pennsylvania line to the west coast. It has about 50 priests in the mission field of the Bengal District of East Pakistan. In a new foundation in Chile there is a college, a seminary and two parishes. His position requires visits to South America and Pakistan, to say nothing of his visits to the many houses in the United States. During a tour to South America in November, 1957, he was the first Fremont to see the bronze bust of Rutherford B. Hayes which had been recently presented to Hayes school in Villa Hayes, Paraguay.

REVEREND ALOYSIUS S. HORN

Another priest-son of the parish who has made a world-wide impression is Father Aloysius S. Horn, born in Fremont on February 26, 1899. Ordained

in Rome in January 1928, he has served as a Chaplain at Camp Perry and Erie Ordnance Depot since 1942. In 1925 he founded the American Christmas Crib Society which has affiliations in Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Belgium, Argentine Republic, Cuba, Spain, Portugal and many other lands. He is the American authority on the history of the Christmas Crib. In 1941 he published a book entitled: "A Christmas Chronicle." Over and above this he is Director of the Saint Gabriel Philatelic Academy, founded in 1954, of which Cardinal Francis Spellman is honorary-President. Long interested in the story of religion as depicted on postage stamps, he has written for publications in Ireland, Germany, Spain, Italy, Austria, France, Belgium, Holland, Brazil, Portugal and other countries. His series, "The Madonna on Stamps" written for the magazine "The Age of Mary" has been an undertaking through four and a half years and has received world acclaim. On September 15, 1957, Monsignor Arnoldi requested him to write the history of the parish for its 100th birthday.

SISTER MARY EVENTIA, S.N.D.

Just before the turn of the century there was born in Fremont, Gertrude Snider who later joined the Sisters of Notre Dame, and took the name Sister Mary Eventia. After a long career as a teacher she was the Toledo Superior of the Sisters who taught at Catholic Central High School from 1939 to 1945. From 1949 to 1951 she served as an American secretary in the Generalate of the Sisters of Notre Dame in Rome, and then as Mother Eventia was appointed Provincial Superior of the Toledo Motherhouse. Here she was directly responsible for the religious life of 323 members of the community. Early in 1958 she was recalled to the Generalate in Rome.



1913 Flood. St. Joseph's steeple to far right.



THE SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME

Hidden here in deference to their humility and reserve and in keeping with their staying out of the limelight are a few words of appreciation for the work of the venerable Sisters.

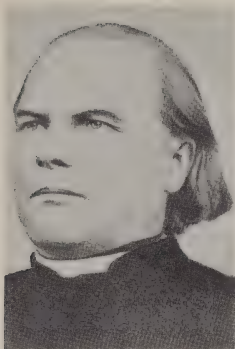
St. Joseph's school opened in October 1859. Until September 1876, lay teachers had charge of the school, but then the Sisters of Notre Dame started their long service which is now in its 81st year. A mention of the local Superiors through the years will bring forth mixed emotions to both old and young.

The Superiors from 1876 to 1884 counted Sister Mary Ferreria and Sister Mary Irmgardis. Then came the following:

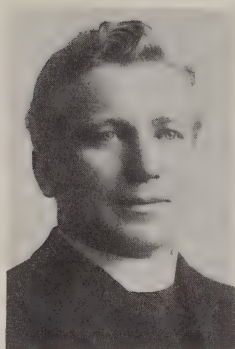
From 1884 to 1890, Sister Mary Pankratia; from 1890 to 1896, Sister Mary Eusebia; from 1896 to 1898, Sister Mary Eleutheria; the term 1898-1899, Sister Mary Medarda; the term 1899-1900, Sister Mary Amanda; the important period from 1900 to 1907 when German and English "A,B,Cs" were still taught in the first grade, Sister Mary Gerlacha; the term 1907-1908, Sister Mary Ignatia; from 1908 to 1911, Sister Mary Vincentine; from 1911 to 1915 Sister Mary Ferdinand; from 1915 to 1920, Sister Mary Sylvia; from 1920 to 1923, Sister Mary Annita; the term 1923-1924, Sister Mary Eleanore; the term 1924-1925, Sister Mary Laurenta; from

1925 to 1927, Sister Mary Gordian; from 1927 to 1932, Sister Mary Oliva; the term 1932-1933, Sister Mary Medarda; the term 1933-1934, Sister Mary Rose; from 1934 to 1940, Sister Mary Lucy; the term 1940-1941, Sister Mary Rosella; from 1941 to 1945, Sister Mary Caroleen; from 1945 to 1949, Sister Mary Angeline; from 1949 to 1955, Sister Mary Jeanne; and from 1955 to the present time, Sister Mary Adolph. How many of these Sisters can you recall?

Some of the Sisters, not always the Superior, have left lasting impressions on the parish and especially on its grown-up children. Some of the earlier Sisters have been mentioned in the course of the history, Sisters who long since have gone to their eternal reward. Within the memory of the living, one of the revered names is that of Sister Mary Vincentine who returned to the German Motherhouse in 1911. Can you blame the school children for remembering her especially because school left out early that year because her ship sailed early? She was followed by Sister Mary Ferdinand, an exceptional educator, who was the local Superior from 1911 to 1915, and at this time there were two other Sisters who will be ever remembered, Sister Mary Anacleta and Sister Mary Cyrilla. Sister Mary Cyrilla served here from 1909 to 1923. Sister Mary



REV. LOUIS HOFFER
(April to August, 1859)
Died, November 2, 1897.



REV. CANTIUS N. FAIST, C.P.P.S.
(1905-1907)
Died, December 1, 1937.



REV. HENRY WAECHTER
(1908-1909)
Died, February 12, 1953.



REV. OTTO C. KAPPUS, PH. D.
(1912-1913)
Died, October 30, 1933.

A TRIBUTE TO THE ASSISTANTS WHO HAVE SERVED SAINT JOSEPH PARISH

Assistants come and go. For the most part the St. Joseph's assistants have been young priests who arrived in the parish shortly after their ordination or a few years after, so that they were fresh with priestly zeal and physical energy. Their contribution to the spiritual development of the congregation cannot be measured in material terms. The Pastor and the entire parish are deeply grateful for their ministrations in both the church and the school.



REV. HENRY A. BUSHKUHLE
(1913-1915)
Died, April 23, 1953.



REV. GEORGE J. MAY
(1915-1918)
Died, June 30, 1942.



REV. CARL F. REINECK
(1918-1922)
Rt. Rev. Monsignor



REV. BENEDICT L. BURGER
(1921-1922)
Died, July 8, 1926.



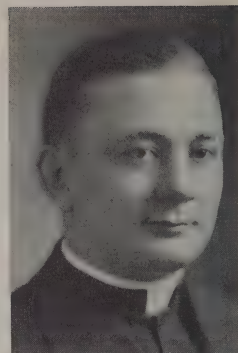
REV. JOSEPH AHN, C.P.P.S.
(1922-1924)



REV. JOHN J. VOGEL, PH. D.
(1924-1926)
Rt. Rev. Monsignor



REV. HILARY R. WEGER
(1926-1930)
Rt. Rev. Monsignor



REV. FRANCIS SCHAEFER
(1928-1934)
Died, November 9, 1945.



REV. SYLVESTER F. SCHNIPKE
(1937-1938)



REV. STEPHEN M. HEGEDUS
(1938-1939)



REV. ALBERT C. SPRENGER
(1938-1944)



REV. LEO W. FRYE
(1939-1942)



REV. KENNETH C. MOORE
(1946-1947)



REV. LOUIS W. HUFFMAN
(1947-1949)



REV. WILLIAM S. FRIEMOTH
(1950-1954)



REV. JOHN J. OLLIVIER
(1950-1951)



REV. MARCUS A. VOGEL
(1930-1933)



REV. ALPHONSE A. HOFFMAN
(1933-1937)



REV. CARL W. SCHEIB
(1934-1937)



REV. EARL M. SCHMIT
(1936)



REV. JOHN SCHMIT
(1940-1944)



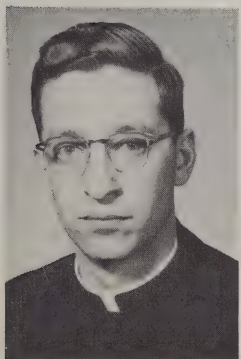
REV. DONALD R. KLAUS
(1942)



REV. BERTRAND J. SHENK
(1944-1955)



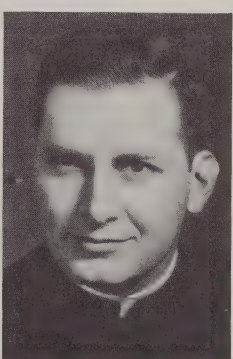
REV. LEO A. LEHMKUHL
(1944-1950)



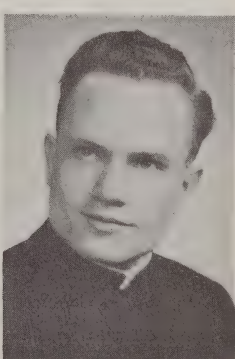
REV. EARL A. LOEFFLER
(1951 to —)



REV. EDWARD V. LAYEY
(1954-1957)



REV. EDWARD J. LICHTLE
(1955 to —)



REV. RAYMOND F. SHEPHERD
(1957 to —)

Hildegard is recalled especially for the year 1933 and her splendid success in the music department. Another Sister whose name is often mentioned is Sister Mary Sulpitia who spent the years from 1915 to 1922 in Fremont.

Many others must be singled out for particular recognition such as Sister Mary Gordian from 1921 to 1927, Sister Mary Oswald from 1927 to 1940, Sister Mary Jeanette from 1934 to 1953, Sister Mary Lucy from 1934 to 1940, Sister Mary Angeline who was here at three different periods and was local Superior from 1945 to 1949, Sister Mary Jeanne from 1949 to 1955, and finally Sister Mary Adolph who has been local Superior since 1955.

As educators the Sisters of Notre Dame have

rendered valuable service to this parish. The decoration of the altars, the training of the Mass servers, the preparation of the First Communion classes, the presentation of school entertainments, all have been part of their daily life. But added to all this, their deep spirituality has not only drawn down extra blessings but has served as an example to all. The clergy are appreciative, the parishioners grateful for all their services and inspiration. This, then, is the formal expression of thanks to all the Sisters who have served so faithfully for nearly 81 years. The real thanks and appreciation will not be found in feeble words but in the hearts and lives of their old pupils, 1700 of whom have now been graduated from the high school department.

Monsignor Arnoldi with some of the graduates of 1970. The first grade in 1957.



FOR YOUR PERSONAL PARISH RECOLLECTIONS

